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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Have you attended or do you plan to attend the public hearings being held to solicit opinions on the Interior Department's recommendation to grant status to long-term alien workers?

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Olé

Enjoy Mexican fare served just the way you like it at the only Mexican restaurant in the block.

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Twin Blasts

Two blasts rip through crowds watching the World Cup final in Uganda's capital, killing 64.

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Memorable Creatures

Are the predators of "Predators" the most memorable movie creatures ever conceived?

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Two suspects in Kagman rape plead not guilty. PAGE 5

Refund checks worth \$6.4M now out

» **Rebate checks, child tax credit checks to follow shortly**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Individual and corporate taxpayers can now expect checks in their mailboxes after the Department of Finance mailed out some 10,000 taxpayer refund checks totaling \$6.4 million last night.

A refund is for tax that has been overpaid or incorrectly paid, and is returned to the taxpayer.

It is different from the rebate, which is for tax properly paid and is subsequently returned to the taxpayer under a rebate provision. Re-

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Paper checks are likely this payday Friday

» **Govt expects \$10M in quarterly BGR tax collections**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Government employees are likely to receive paper checks again, instead of electronic transfer of funds, when they get paid this Friday.

"I am optimistic," Finance Secretary Bob Schrack told reporters yesterday, referring to a timely release of wages for most government employees.

Schrack, whose nomination as Finance secretary received Senate confirmation

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VILLAGOMEZ CLAN REUNION

Members of the Villagomez clan pose for a group photo after their Joeten-Kiyu Public Library beautification project last July 7.

See story and more photos on Page 13.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Steve Newman, ex-CNMI governor's legal counsel, passes away in Oregon

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Former CNMI governor's legal counsel Steve Newman, who was also a Senate legal counsel for a time, passed away in Portland, Oregon during the weekend. He was 38.

Newman served as legal counsel for former Gov. Juan N. Babauta from November 2003 to January 2006.

He was also associate counsel at the law office of former Presiding Judge Edward Manibusan from January 2006 to August 2008, before moving to Guam to work at the Guam Office of the Attorney General.

"I miss him," Olive Newman cried as she talked about her husband.

"He left Guam for Oregon on July 5. I had a dream about him this weekend, and in my

See NEWMAN on Page 4



Newman

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Local

Ex-convict allegedly burglarized own employer

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

An ex-convict who is on federal probation allegedly admitted burglarizing his then employer, Saint Michael's Medical Response, in April and stealing some company checks that he later forged.

U.S. Probation Officer Melinda N. Brunson said Jesse Mafnas Babauta confessed to being responsible for the burglary at Saint Michael's Medical Response's accounting office on April 30, 2010.

During her interview with Babauta on June 1, Brunson

said that Babauta attributed his actions to a gambling addiction.

The U.S. Probation Office wants the court to revoke Babauta's probation. He is set to appear in court on Wednesday to explain why his probation should not be revoked.

Babauta pleaded guilty to a count of mail fraud in November 2006, convicted of defrauding Zhi Yuan Li by promising to get his daughter from Fujian, China, into Saipan in exchange for payment. Persons from the Fujian Province cannot lawfully enter the CNMI without advance written permission from the

CNMI Office of the Attorney General.

The federal court imposed a four-month prison term on Babauta and three years of supervised release. Babauta's term of probation will expire on March 23, 2013.

In the petition for revocation of probation, Brunson said that, on May 12, 2010, the president and owner of Saint Michael's Medical Response told the U.S. Probation Office that Babauta was a suspect in the burglary at his company.

Brunson said three of the company's employees apparently saw Babauta entering the

main office at 6pm on April 30, 2010. The next morning, the door to the accounting office was found forced open. At the time, the staff could not determine if anything had been taken.

Babauta did not report for work since then.

Brunson said the owner later discovered that blank checks numbered 2705 to 2711 were missing and some of the checks had been forged and cashed at different stores on Saipan.

Brunson said the Office of the Attorney General has yet to charge Babauta in those crimes.



A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority
Tourism is everybody's business.

"Oba, the Last Samurai" Big Hit for Saipan



"Oba, the Last Samurai," a full-scale Japanese movie project set in Saipan recently began filming and is slated for release during the first week of February 2011 in over 300 TOHO theaters in Japan.

The **Marianas Visitors Authority** is expecting the movie to have a positive impact on tourism to Saipan, as the movie is produced by a major studio with an A-list cast and staff, including Yutaka Takenouchi, Toshiaki Karasawa, Mao Inoue, and Takayuki Yamada.

One of the movie's producers and a crew of seven are slated to be in Saipan from July 10-17, 2010, to film actual locations in detail, including Mt. Tapochau, caves, and jungles. Part of the film will also be filmed in Thailand.



In related news, the MVA has met with a producer of "NEWS ZERO" on their visit to Saipan to film a documentary of the movie. "NEWS ZERO" is one of the most

popular nationwide primetime news shows in Japan on the NTV network. The resulting pieces will air at a time to coincide with the release of the movie.



This Tourism Tuesday space is provided by Saipan Tribune

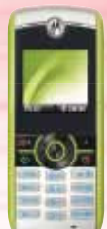
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IF AUSTERITY BILL FOR FYS 2010, 2011 PASSES

'Over \$9M cut in govt spending, or \$290K every pay period'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Finance Secretary Bob Schrack said yesterday that government spending will be cut by some

Inos signs 2 bills giving up to \$182K to '10 Liberation and Micro Games

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Acting Gov. Eloy S. Inos signed Thursday a local law and a public law re-appropriating a total of up to \$182,000 to fund activities related to the 2010 Liberation Day, the 2010 Micronesian Games, a power distribution project in Obyan, and other projects.

The two measures give a total of \$40,000 to the CNMI team's expenses related to the 7th Micronesian Games in Palau in August, a total of up to \$80,048 for the Obyan power distribution project, and \$25,000 for expenses related to the 2010 Liberation Day festivities.

The bill, introduced by House Minority Leader Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan), is now Public Law 17-9.

Inos disapproved a portion of the bill that appropriates \$10,000 to the annual Saipan Fishing Derby. Requests for appropriations for this program have always been line-item vetoed since last year.

Inos requests that the \$10,000 "be used to fund the transportation of Saipan's Little League baseball team to Jakarta for the regional tournament."

The acting governor, however, approved the bill's re-appropriation of a total of \$65,000 to go toward three programs and activities.

\$290,000 every "austerity Friday" once the latest version of House Bill 17-45 is passed and signed into law.

Because there are at least six pay periods for the remainder

These include \$20,000 for the CNMI team's expenses related to the Micronesian Games; \$20,000 for the Obyan power distribution project; and the 2010 Liberation Day expenses.

Inos also signed House Local Bill 17-22 into Saipan Local Law 17-4.

The measure, introduced by Reps. Ray Yumul (R-Saipan) and Ray Tebuteb (R-Saipan), re-appropriates \$40,000 and up to \$77,048 from four Saipan local laws.

A total of \$40,000 will be re-appropriated to three programs and activities: \$16,000 to renovate the China Town basketball court; \$10,000 for the construction of two bus shelters in Puerto Rico; and \$14,000 to pay for the entertainment at the 2010 Liberation Day festivities, which ran from June 4 to July 4.

The new local law also re-appropriates \$20,000 for expenses related to the 2010 Micronesian Games.

It also re-appropriates up to \$55,048 for the Obyan power distribution project under the expenditure of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director.

SLL 17-4 also re-appropriates \$2,000 for the purchase of signs for the Neighborhood Watch Program for Precinct 1. The expenditure authority is the Department of Public Works secretary.

of Fiscal Year 2010 and 26 pay periods in FY 2011, the every-other-Friday shutdown of most government offices will result in over \$9 million "reduction in deficit"—and "not savings."

FY 2010 ends on Sept. 30, while FY 2011 will be from Oct. 1, 2010 to Sept. 30, 2011.

"That figure already takes into consideration the exemptions," Schrack told *Saipan Tribune* after a meeting with some members of the House of Representatives late yesterday afternoon.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's proposed FY 2011 budget of \$132 million already includes "austerity measures" so by passing the austerity bill, the gov-

ernment will be able to spend within its means.

Those in emergency positions such as doctors, nurses, police officers, fire fighters and corrections officers, as well as federally funded positions, will be exempted from the eight-hour work reduction.

The latest version of the austerity bill also exempts the Public School System and Northern Marianas College.

Lawmakers said the bill will likely pass this time, considering the threats of more payless paydays or delayed paychecks if government spending is not curtailed, and also because PSS and NMC are exempted.

Rep. Ramon Basa (Cov-Saipan), chairman of the

House Ways and Means Committee, separately said yesterday that the conference committee on HB 17-45 will be ready with its committee report today on the latest version of his austerity bill.

Basa said the House will be rescheduling its Thursday session to Monday, so that the latest austerity bill will be placed on the agenda and to meet the 72-hour public notice requirement of the Open Government Act.

"It will be passed. It should be passed during Monday's session," Basa said.

Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee chair Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota) said senators are also now keen on sup-

porting the bill, given the severity of the government's financial problems.

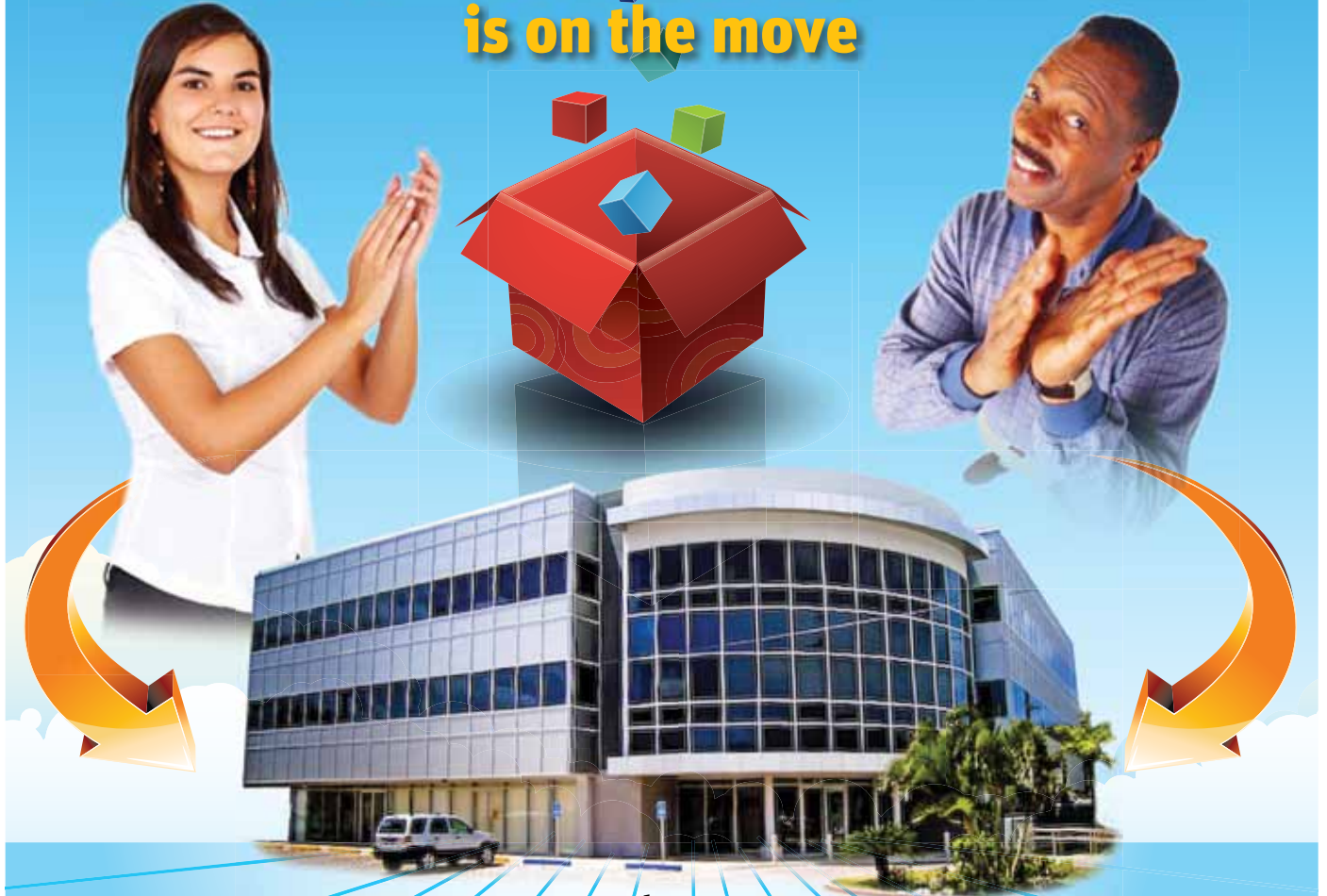
But the Senate also wants the House to simultaneously pass revenue-generating bills.

The House bill the joint House and Senate committee adopted on Friday applies to both FYs 2010 and 2011, unlike previous austerity bills Basa authored.

It seeks to cut work hours by eight per pay period, or from 80 to 72. This eight-hour work reduction means government shutdown "every non-payday Friday." But unlike its previous versions, the latest austerity bill retains paid holidays.

It applies the "austerity Fridays" equitably to all government employees—both civil and excepted service—and employees of autonomous agencies, municipal employees, and federally funded employees.

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Man on probation for counterfeiting admits using drugs

A man on federal probation for passing counterfeit bills to some stores made his third admission this year of using methamphetamine or “ice” and marijuana.

This prompted the U.S. Probation Office to seek the revocation of Nestor Camacho Taitano’s probation.

U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting judge Robert J. Bryan summoned Taitano to appear in court tomorrow, Wednesday, and explain why his probation should not be revoked.

The federal court had sentenced Taitano on Nov. 18, 2009, to time already served (159 days) for two counts of conspiracy to utter counterfeit obligations and securities, and two counts of uttering counterfeit obligations and securities.

He was placed on supervised pro-

bation for three years beginning Nov. 18, 2009.

U.S. Probation Officer Melinda N. Brunson stated in a petition that on Feb. 5, 2010, an informational report was submitted to the court after Taitano admitted to smoking “ice” on Jan. 23, 2010.

Brunson said that, on May 19, 2010, a request to modify conditions of defendant’s supervised release was submitted to the court and 40 hours of community work service were added to the conditions due to a second admission of “ice” use on May 6, 2010.

Brunson said that, on June 6, 2010, Taitano reported to Marianas Counseling Services for urinalysis and his test was presumptive positive for marijuana.

The probation officer said Taitano denied smoking marijuana and stated

he was only around people who were smoking marijuana at a beach in Chalan Kanoa.

Brunson said that on June 8, 2010, the defendant reported to the U.S. Probation Office for a compliance meeting in which he admitted to smoking marijuana on June 5, 2010 at his residence.

Brunson said Taitano also admitted to drinking three cans of beer and that he was not truthful to Marianas Counseling Services personnel because he was scared of the consequences.

The probation officer said Taitano, however, reports monthly as required and attends all drug testing and counseling appointments.

She said the defendant has not paid his special assessment fee or restitution.

EMO conducts tsunami awareness workshop

The Emergency Management Office will be conducting a CNMI Tsunami Awareness Workshop Course today and tomorrow at the Hyatt Regency Saipan’s Sandcastle.

The two-day workshop is a joint undertaking with the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center and the International Tsunami Information Center.

According to workshop coordinator Juan T. Camacho of the EMO, today’s workshop consists of 56 participants from government and non-government agencies that are part of the Response Action Team.

The session on July 14, which will have 48 participants, caters to individuals from the private sector and other govern-

ment agency representatives who cannot make it to today’s workshop.

Camacho said the speakers include David Walsh, an oceanographer at the PTWC; Brian Yanagi, disaster specialist at the ITIC; Genevive Miller and Chip Guard, meteorologists at the National Weather Service in Guam. **(Clarissa V. David)**

Ninth Circuit denies all of Montgomery’s motions

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has denied the request of convicted businessman Bert Douglas Montgomery to issue a certificate of appealability to his appeal.

The Ninth Circuit said all outstanding motions are denied as moot. The appellate court judges did not explain their order.

U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting judge John C. Coughenour last

May 21 dismissed with finality Montgomery’s motions.

Coughenour also ordered that the court will accept no further filings in this case.

Last April 28, Montgomery wrote a letter to Superior Court associate judge and federal court designated judge David A. Wiseman, stating he wants to recover for his years of false imprisonment.

Montgomery is in federal prison serving a 20-year prison term for his conviction on wire fraud and money laundering charges. He was sentenced in December 2003.

The federal court also ordered him to pay jointly with co-defendants restitution to the Bank of Saipan in the amount of over \$5.8 million, and to bank client Michelle Hom some \$209,980. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

NEWMAN

From Page 1

dream, his face was still the same but not his body. I asked him if he was okay. I believe that was his way of saying goodbye... I’m still shocked and in disbelief. People he knew also couldn’t believe it,” Olive Newman told *Saipan Tribune* in a phone interview yesterday.

Olive said her husband’s body was found on Saturday in Portland, Oregon, a day after he was reported missing.

She said the family would know by today the exact cause of his passing.

“I miss him. Every time he leaves, he leaves notes for me like ‘I love you.’ He prepares breakfast, I prepare dinner. He calls me Sugar Bear, and I call him Big Bear... He’s sweet, friendly, and smart. People like him so much,” Olive Newman said.

They called each other “sweetheart.”

Steve, Olive, their family and friends spent their Fourth of July weekend in Guam. On July 5, Steve left for Oregon for treatment of a heart condition. His wife was to follow him there.

“I changed my flight and I leave Tuesday to see him,” Olive Newman, who is also 38, said.

Former Gov. Juan N. Babauta, in a separate phone interview yesterday, said he’s still in disbelief upon hearing the news from Olive Newman.

“My heart is crying. You don’t ex-

pect something like this to happen to a person close to you, to someone you worked with very closely. It’s just inconceivable,” Babauta.

Babauta said he knew Steve Newman even before he became his legal counsel when he was governor.

“As my legal counsel, he performed his duties far above expectations. He’s outstanding. He’s knowledgeable of legal issues. He’s a very personable guy, easy to get along with. He’s somebody you can count on. Whenever I assign him something to research on, he’s very brief and thorough in his report,” Babauta said.

He said he last saw Steve Newman six or seven months ago, but they kept in touch through e-mails and even Facebook.

Steve Newman was born and raised in Nigeria to missionary parents. His family moved back to the U.S. when he was still young. “He used to speak one African language fluently, and he had lots of friends of different races,” his wife said.

Steve Newman came to Saipan in 1997 to work as judicial clerk for the office of then CNMI Superior Court Judge Juan T. Lizama until March 2001.

He served as legal counsel for the 13th CNMI Senate from March 2001 to July 2003, before becoming policy adviser to then Labor Secretary Dr. Joaquin A. Tenorio until November 2003.

“To date, he has completed 265.5 hours of community service and has

74.5 hours remaining,” Brunson said. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

REFUND

From Page 1

bate checks of some \$5 million will be mailed out later.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, in a phone interview last night, said the 10,000 refund checks are only the first round.

Some 9,000 more refund check payments are still being processed and are expected to also be mailed out in the next few days to taxpayers who filed their income tax returns.

Demapan said many eligible taxpayers would notice a larger amount in their refund checks because it could include the “Making Work Pay” credit of up to \$400.

This additional federal stimulus fund for tax year 2009 is expected to further spur spending activity.

“We want to inform our taxpayers that the Fitial administration is following through on our commitment that we will not invade funds reserved. We promised to timely release refund and rebate checks,” Demapan told *Saipan Tribune* last night.

As promised, the Fitial administration didn’t dip into the refund and rebate funds despite difficulty in making payroll on time and making timely payments to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. for power, water and sewer services.

“The administration acknowledges that the economy is facing challenges but we hope that with the release of these checks, the economy will regain some stability. We also hope that through the distribution of refund checks, our economy will be stimulated,” Demapan added.

Rebate, child tax credit

Demapan said the CNMI government also submitted some \$3 million in advanced child tax credit certification to the U.S. Treasury yesterday.

“We are expecting to receive funds

for this from the U.S. Treasury to the CNMI government in the next two weeks. Once we receive the fund, then we will immediately process the checks and distribute to taxpayers,” Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*.

The federal advanced child tax credit is available to taxpayers who have a child under the age of 17. In general, a “qualifying” child is any individual for whom the taxpayer can claim a dependency exemption and who is the taxpayer’s son or daughter, stepson or stepdaughter, brother or sister, or eligible foster child.

The child tax credit is up to \$1,000 per “qualifying” child.

Last year, at least 3,906 families in the CNMI received over \$4.4 million in child tax credit, higher than the \$2.6 million received for tax year 2007. The CNMI got \$1.4 million for tax year 2006, and \$1.6 million for 2005.

Demapan said after the total 19,000 in refund checks are mailed out, Finance will also start processing rebate checks totaling \$5 million.

Families and businesses in the CNMI look forward to their refund and rebate checks, as well as child tax credit checks.

“Once I receive my refund and rebate checks, I will deposit half of them to my kids’ bank account, and the rest will go to buying school supplies and new appliances,” a father of two said yesterday.

Another taxpayer, who has been a nonresident worker in the CNMI for 15 years, said he would finally be able to buy a new pair of shoes and a new watch once he receives his refund or rebate checks.

Delinquent taxpayers will not receive their refund checks until they settle their outstanding taxes due the CNMI government.

Government employees, who now have to ask whether they will get paid on time every payday, said these checks will help them cover some of their expenses.

PAYDAY

From Page 1

in June, expects electronic transfers to resume after the end of July, when the government expects fresh cash collections from the quarterly business gross revenue tax.

For the first time in CNMI history, most government employees had a payless payday on June 18 when government’s cash collection fell short. As a result, only those holding emergency positions like doctors, nurses, police officers, firefighters and corrections officers got paid on time.

The government was able to release salaries on time on July 2, but through paper checks.

“We barely made it the last time,” said Schrack.

He said the government needs some \$4 million each payroll, but this already includes payroll for the central government, Public School System, Northern Marianas College, and the Marianas Visitors Authority.

“I would say some \$2.8 million

for [the] central government, about \$200,000 for NMC and MVA, and about a million for PSS, so that’s about \$4 million,” Schrack added.

He said being a Finance secretary is “very stressful”—with payroll to take care of, utility billings to address to make sure power and water are not cut off, and that medical referral patients are taken cared of.

BGRT collections, MVA woes

Rep. Ramon Basa (Cov-Saipan), in a separate interview, said the government expects \$10 million to \$11 million in business gross revenue tax collections by end-July.

He said with the fresh cash collection, the Department of Finance may be able to provide the Marianas Visitors Authority with additional funding so it could pay off its over \$2 million debt owed to travel and tourism agencies in Japan, Korea, Russia and China as well as in the CNMI.

“We don’t want to further hurt our only major industry—tourism,” said Basa, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee.

ON FINDINGS THAT GOVERNOR MEDDLES WITH NMC

Fitial only fulfilling his constitutional mandate—Demapan

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

While it welcomes the findings of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, the Fitial administration yesterday said its alleged meddling in the affairs of the Northern Marianas College is part of Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's mandate under the CNMI Constitution.

WASC earlier cited the governor's interference with NMC's operation as one of the reasons why the college was put on show-cause status anew. The committee report specifically stated that the governor's proposal to reduce NMC staffing by nine positions is a clear violation of WASC's standards because it infringes on the college's autonomy in handling its own financial operations.

Fitial's spokesman, Angel Demapan, said the submission of a budget for all government agencies and instrumentalities, including NMC, is part of the official mandates of the governor.

"While the administration welcomes the findings of WASC, it should be noted and understood that the governor is mandated by the CNMI Constitution to submit a proposed balanced budget annually. Given that NMC receives millions of dollars from local funds, the governor must adhere to the supreme law of the land—the Constitution—when apportioning the Commonwealth's budget," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

He said the college, without the budget from the central government, will have nothing to spend for operations.

"If NMC is to set its own budget based on the report by WASC, then what resources will the college be able to identify to set its budget?" asked Demapan.

Fitial has proposed to the Legislature a meager \$4.7 million budget for NMC next fiscal year due to declining government revenues. NMC had asked for over \$9 million.

The governor also zeroed out the budget for some positions at the college.

Demapan said the administration respects all other aspects of each agency's autonomy.

Meantime, Demapan labeled

as speculation the WASC findings that Fitial directed the Board of Regents chair to terminate the employment of the former president Dr. Carmen Fernandez because of political differences.

"I reiterate the administration's stance in respecting and upholding the standards of autonomy that apply to certain agencies. While the governor is empowered to submit nominations for vacancies on the

NMC Board of Regents, each board member is empowered to exercise their respective fiduciary duties freely and in the best interest of the college. Anything else is purely speculation," he said.

Suspects in Kagman rape plead not guilty

The two suspects in the kidnapping and rape of a 16-year-old student in Kagman entered not guilty pleas in the Superior Court yesterday.

Ivan Jones Castro and Angel Jess Santos were arraigned yesterday on charges of kidnapping, conspiracy to commit kidnapping, sexual assault in the first degree, conspiracy to commit sexual assault in the first degree, aggravated assault

and battery, and disturbing the peace.

Presiding Judge Robert Naraja set the status conference for July 28, 2010.

Chief Prosecutor Michael Ernest appeared at the hearing for the government.

Police first arrested the 21-year-old Santos on June 18. He has allegedly confessed to being one of three persons who kidnapped the victim and

that he only served as a lookout when one of them raped the victim at Tank Beach on June 16.

Police arrested the second suspect, 33-year-old Castro, outside the Kagman Market in Kagman III on June 30.

Police said the victim had identified Castro and Santos in a photo lineup as two of the men who attacked her.

Santos allegedly blocked the victim's path as she was

waking toward Kagman High School, while Castro reportedly grabbed the victim's nape, forced her head down, choked her, and punched her several times on the face and head.

When the victim regained consciousness, she was outside an abandoned building several meters away where she was attacked.

The third suspect is still being hunted. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

Municipal council prods EMO about tsunami warning system for Saipan

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
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REPORTER

The office of the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council maintains that they never received a response to their letter to the Office of the CNMI Homeland Security Office and the CNMI Emergency Management Office regarding a Tsunami Advanced Warning System for Saipan.

In an e-mail to *Saipan Tribune*, Frances C. Muña of the Municipal Council said they addressed the letter dated Dec. 18, 2009, to HMO director Patrick P. Tenorio and EMO director Joaquin Omar.

The aftermath of the 8.3-magnitude that struck Samoa and American Samoa last September prompted the municipal council to inquire about a tsunami disaster response plan for Saipan.

In the letter signed by municipal council acting chair Ramon Camacho, the municipal council acknowledged the "exposure and vulnerability of the Northern Marianas to seismic disruptions in the surrounding Pacific tectonic areas, particularly the coastal villages where schools and churches are located on Saipan."

The municipal council identified the complacency of the people since tremors brought by volcanic activities have become regular occurrences.

"Perhaps, we have grown so accustomed to earthquakes as normal course of events being in the Pacific chain of fire zone. Indeed, we do not appear to be

threatened even by the routine volcanic eruptions up north in Pagan or Anatahan, which often generate quakes of varying magnitudes," the letter stated.

The municipal council said the tsunami evacuation signposts that are strategically placed throughout Saipan are not enough to caution the people, particularly residents in low-lying areas, about an imminent tsunami.

According to the municipal council, Saipan's coastal villages need "effective early warning systems with highly visible and identifiable warning lights."

"The system should be equipped with automatic messages that [feature] specific-village instructions on the steps people must take in the event of a tsunami," the letter explained.

The municipal council also urged HMO and EMO to work with telecommunication companies in developing a mass notification system through text messaging. This system could have prevented chaos and confusion instigated by instances such as the mass shooting incident that happened in November 2009.

Another recommendation by the municipal council was for schools on Saipan to conduct regular tsunami and disaster-related trainings.

The municipal council also proposed that first responders and security officials such as the HMO and EMO staff carry out educational outreach activities to inform the public about the courses of action to take in case of natural disasters such as a tsunami.

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-082

"REPAIR/REPLACEMENT OF ROOF FOR GTC ELEMENTARY, TANAPAG ELEMENTARY, GARAPAN ELEMENTARY AND OLEAI ELEMENTARY"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for **Repair/Replacement of Roof for GTC, Tanapag, Garapan, and Oleai Elementary School** on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Scope of Work and project package are available beginning on June 29, 2010 Pacific Quick Print for a fee of \$38.90.

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on July 16, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. at PSS Conference Room, 2nd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-bid conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at lizb@emchen.com no later than July 22, 2010, 4:30p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked **"IFB 10-082"** containing one (1) original with three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 9:00a.m., local time, August 2, 2010. If no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be publicly opened at 9:00 a.m. local time, August 6, 2010 in the 2nd Floor Conference Room, NMI Retirement Fund Building.

Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Procurement Officer no later than 9:00 a.m. local time on August 6, 2010 and may be transmitted via fax to (670) 664-3791 or email to robert.florian@cnmipss.org. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and three copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than August 6, 2010 and must be received no later than August 17, 2010 in which case all bids will be opened at 9:00 a.m., August 19, 2010

This project is funded under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) with "Buy America" Provisions.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer

PSS reprograms over \$200K for building rent

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Public School System re-programmed over \$200,000 in federal monies to pay for an entire year's rent for the two floors it occupies at the NMI Retirement Fund Building on Capitol Hill.

Finance director Richard Waldo said that PSS will complete its rent payments to the Fund within the week, with the money to be sourced from the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund that PSS received last year.

"We will pay our rent [to the Retirement Fund] anytime this week. The amount is more than \$200,000 including utilities and will come from federal monies. This is PSS' obligation and we intend to fulfill this," Waldo told *Saipan Tribune*.

PSS has been renting the Fund building's second and third floors since 2000 and pays about \$20,000 monthly. It has not been paying this amount for a year.

Fund trustees in last week's board meeting expressed disappointment after learning that PSS' unpaid rent was among the expected revenues that remain uncollected.

Waldo, however, said that PSS cannot tap federal funds to pay for the more than \$17 million it owes the Fund in employer contributions.

He said reprogramming cer-

tain federal monies to settle this obligation is a different case because a large bulk of this debt was a result of changes in the laws that adjusted the employer's contribution rate from 36 percent to 11 percent.

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan explained Friday that PSS, not being a revenue-generating agency, has no other funding source but local funds to pay for its unpaid employer contribution.

"PSS is not a revenue-generating agency... and [the] NMI government is responsible for that [unpaid employer contribution]. Like what happened last week in our delayed payroll, we cannot make the payment if they don't remit the needed money," Sablan said at the conclusion of a four-day professional de-

velopment institute for school leaders and program managers.

Sablan said PSS will continue to work closely with the government to ensure that the retirement of its employees will not be jeopardized.

"We do have a system in place now where Mr. Waldo has recommended that even though we are not able to pay the contribution regularly, when anyone retires we pay the full amount," she said.

Waldo said yesterday that no PSS employee has been denied his or her retirement due to this unpaid contribution because the system is consistently paying in full their contribution.

The unpaid employer contributions of autonomous agencies totaled \$29.3 million as of March this year.

Seatbelt, carseat checkpoints on Tinian

The Tinian Department of Public Safety's Traffic Section will be conducting seatbelt and child carseat checkpoints this week.

The first one will be held tomorrow, July 14, 2010, by the Youth Center in San Jose Village along the southbound lane, from 11am to 12:15pm, followed by another one at Kammer Beach in San Jose Village, from 5pm to 6:15pm.

The second checkpoint will be held on Friday, July 16, 2010, by the Hofschneider warehouse in Marpo Valley, from 6am to 7:15am, followed

by another one on Route 201 on the northbound lane, from 3pm to 4:15pm.

The third checkpoint will be held on Saturday, July 17, 2010, by the baseball field in San Jose Village on the eastbound lane, from 6am to 7:15am, followed by another along the northbound lane of Broadway Road by old Tinian Hotel, from 10am to 11:15am.

All the checkpoints are subject to be terminated if it begins to rain. In addition to the checkpoints, officers will be conducting highway criminal interdictions. **(DPS)**



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-083

"REPAIR/REPLACEMENT OF ROOF FOR SAN VICENTE ELEMENTARY, WSR ELEMENTARY AND HOPWOOD JR. HIGH SCHOOL"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for **Repair/Replacement of Roof for San Vicente Elementary, WSR Elementary and Hopwood Jr. High School** on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Scope of Work and project package are available beginning on June 29, 2010 Pacific Quick Print for a fee of \$38.90.

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on July 16, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. at PSS Conference Room, 2nd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-bid conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at lizb@emchen.com no later than July 22, 2010, 4:30p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked **"IFB 10-083"** containing one (1) original with three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 9:30a.m., local time, August 2, 2010. If no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be publicly opened at 9:30 a.m. local time, August 6, 2010 in the 2nd Floor Conference Room, NMI Retirement Fund Building.

Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Procurement Officer no later than 9:30 a.m. local time on August 6, 2010 and may be transmitted via fax to (670) 664-3791 or email to robert.florian@cnmipss.org. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and three copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than August 6, 2010 and must be received no later than August 17, 2010 in which case all bids will be opened at 9:30 a.m., August 19, 2010

This project is funded under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) with "Buy America" Provisions.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer



PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE Proposed Plan for Edoni Site



The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers announces that it will convene a meeting to engage public participation in its proposal to perform environmental cleanup of Edoni Site in accordance with the Defense Environmental Restoration Program for Formerly Used Defense Sites (DERP-FUDS). A Proposed Plan has been prepared to provide an overview of the contamination discovered at the former military site, the potential risks posed to human and ecological receptors, cleanup standards, and various remediation alternatives. It also selects a preferred remediation alternative for the site.

Comments on the Proposed Plan can be expressed during a public meeting to be held on Tuesday, July 20, 2010, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Garapan Elementary School. Army Corps of Engineers representatives will be available during the meeting to receive your comments and to answer your questions regarding elements of the document and the remediation alternatives evaluated.

You may also submit written comments regarding the Proposed Plan to:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Honolulu Engineer District
Programs and Project Management Division
Environmental Branch
Building 252
CEPOH-PP-E (Helene Takemoto)
Fort Shafter, HI 96858-5440
Fax: 808.438.6930
E-mail: FUDS-POH@usace.army.mil

Rota National Park study bill goes to House floor for vote

U.S. Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) says his most important job on returning to work in Washington Tuesday will be shepherding the Rota National Park study bill through a vote on the floor of the House of Representatives.

Debate on Sablan's bill, H.R. 4686, the Rota Cultural and Natural Resources Study Act, is scheduled on the House suspension calendar for mid-afternoon Eastern Standard Time and can be watched on C-Span or on the Internet at <http://clerk.house.gov/>.

"This is a very good way to return to legislative business after the July 4th district work period," says Sablan. "We're hitting the ground running."

Sablan's bill authorizes the Interior Secretary to conduct a study of the pre- and post-Western contact archaeological sites on Rota and of the island's unique plant and animal life to determine whether these resources have national sig-

nificance. If they do, and if it would be suitable and feasible, the study may recommend establishment of a National Park on Rota to preserve and protect these resources.

"I was asked by people on Rota to look into the possibility of a national park," Sablan said. "And this study is the necessary first step."

Sablan introduced the bill in February and the Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands held a hearing in April.

"Rota Representative Teresita A. Santos came to Washington at my invitation and testified in favor of the bill at the hearing," Sablan recalled. "She showed slides of the ancient Chamorro village sites and of the landscape of Rota and did a great job convincing the Parks Subcommittee of the value of the natural and cultural resources on Rota."

"After listening to Representative Santos' presentation, Congresswoman Grace Napolitano (D-CA) summed it up perfectly. She called Rota 'a jewel.' And I think that is what



Sablan

the National Park Service study will conclude, too."

In addition to the assessment of the national significance of Rota, the study authorized by Sablan's bill will include extensive public comment and opportunities for the people of Rota to discuss the advantages of having a National Park.

"I believe that designating a Park could potentially ease some of the restrictions on land

development on Rota," said Kilili, "and could have a great benefit to Rota's economic development strategy of being an eco-tourism destination."

"But ultimately it is the people of Rota who will have to decide. I just want to give Rota the opportunity to have a National Park, because it could bring significant environmental and economic benefits to the island."

The Obama Administration has also backed Sablan's Park study legislation. At the Parks Subcommittee hearing, Katherine Stevenson, representing the Interior Department, told the Subcommittee "the natural and cultural resources of the island

of Rota are significant to island residents, the CNMI, and the entire nation and merit protection."

But, Stevenson warned, "the people of Rota and their political leaders find themselves at a crossroads regarding the uses to which their lands are being put. Major land use changes are continuing to take place," referring to the transfer of public land to private ownership.

Subcommittee chair Raúl Grijalva (D-AZ) responded by asking Stevenson whether this means it's a good time or a bad time to go ahead with a study. Answered Stevenson: "I believe it's a good time."

Some of the sites on Rota that

have been suggested for National Park status are the Mochan Latte Stone Village, Chugai Pictorial Cave, Alaguan Bay Village, and the Taga Latte Stone Quarry. In addition to assessing the national significance of these ancient Latte Stone Culture locations, the Park study would look at the remnants of Japanese-era colonialism, and the unique limestone forests that survive on Rota.

"I am very grateful to Natural Resources Committee chairman Nick Rahall and to Parks Subcommittee chairman Grijalva for keeping this bill moving," Sablan said. "They understand the importance of protecting the environment and helping the economy of Rota. They have been very supportive." (PR)

CUC overhauls billing system to speed up accounting processes

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A consultant sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture was recently on island for two weeks to help the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. improve its accounting and billing processes and, by doing so, speed up the completion of future CUC financial audits.

Assistant executive officer Abe Utu Malae said yesterday that Michael Zimmerling, sponsored by the USDA Graduate School at the Honolulu/Pacific Islands Training Institute, taught CUC personnel spreadsheet applications that helped eliminate about six days of extra staff work each month.

Starting Aug. 1, CUC will change its billing dates for customers, moving up one week from the normal billing cycle. The effort is being touted as a means to improve CUC's service to customers.

"Right now our worst case is about 77 days [47 days to get a bill out and another 30 to get it paid]. We will have that down to 37 days by March 2012 [bill generated within 7 days of the read and again, 30 days to pay]," explained Malae.

He said it is CUC's goal to have one billing cycle for all its customers, including government agencies.

"We're working with the software application right now to make sure the system

can handle what we want to do, and indications are that it can. Having all CNMI government accounts on the same billing cycle will make the accounts much easier to administer. Also, it will allow for the lag to be eliminated all at one time," said Malae, adding that the goal is to get this done by the end of the fiscal year, Sept. 30, 2010.

Saipan Tribune was told that having bills generated within a week or so of the billing period will allow customers to be a lot more proactive and timely in recognizing issues such as water leaks or unusual electrical consumption.

"Having the invoices to customers paid earlier helps

CUC pay its own suppliers on time," added Malae.

He said CUC is also looking at a new Management Information System that will produce bills that are much more user friendly, showing usage in graph form, detailing number of days on the bills, comparing to prior periods, etc.

However, depending on funding, such a system will not be in place for a year or so, he said.

"We are also tightening up on the service order process so that meter investigations are completed on a timely basis. Our goal is to resolve these inquiries/complaints within the same billing cycle as received," added Malae.



Malae

The Northern Marianas Judiciary Historical Society
and the Judiciary present

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Former Dean, University of New Mexico School of Law
Albuquerque, NM

July 15, 2010 Thursday 11:30AM

Hillblom Law Library, Guma' Hustisia, Susupe

Lecture on Business Ethics

Professor Robert Desiderio

July 16, 2010 Friday 12 noon

Hillblom Law Library, Guma' Hustisia, Susupe

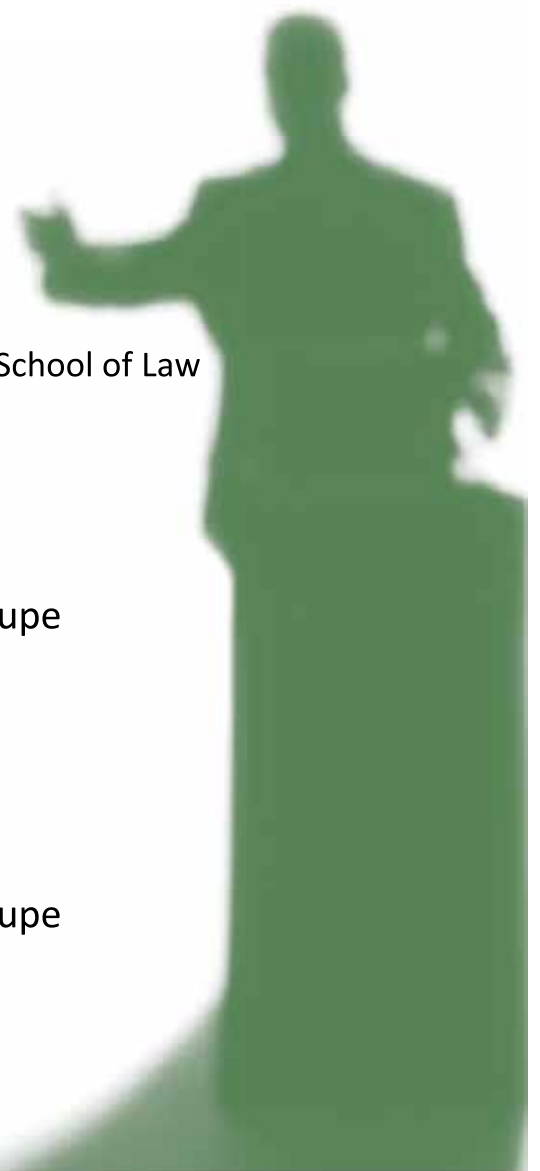
"The Modern Constitution"

Professor Rose Villazor and

Professor Robert Desiderio

This program is supported in part by the Northern Mariana Islands Council for
the Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Any view, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this program are those of the participants and do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities or the NMI Humanities Council.



Can you identify?

THE NMI Council for the Humanities, in collaboration with the *Saipan Tribune*, is running a series of photographs in this section every Tuesday and is inviting the public to identify the persons or places featured in this section.



If you can identify the persons or places in the picture, please contact the NMI Council for the Humanities by telephone (235-4785), via email (photo@nmihumanities.org) or by visiting the Council's office located in Springs Plaza, Gualo Rai. These images are from the Council's Historic Photograph Database, which is currently being developed to help document the history and cultures of the CNMI.



The persons featured in last week's photo have been identified as, from left, Jacinta Q. Kapileo, Fr. Fredinand Pangelinan, Rosita Ruak, and Remedio E. Pua. Photo taken at the San Isidro Fiesta in the early 1980s. Identified by Valerie Malwelbug, Pauline DLG Kapileo, Rita Dela Cruz, Carmen Elameto, Remedio Cangco, and Rita Cabrera.

Kilili: \$400K for CNMI Judiciary in FY11 CJS appropriations bill

CNMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan has announced the inclusion of \$400,000 for the CNMI Judiciary in the Commerce, Justice, Science appropriation for fiscal 2011. The CJS appropriations subcommittee added the money to the bill it marked up last week in response to Sablan's request for assistance. The \$400,000 would go towards personnel, training, and systems upgrades for the courts on Rota, Tinian, and Saipan.

"Like the \$500,000 earmark for renovating the Rota gymnasium that was included in the Transportation Subcommittee bill last week, this \$400,000 for the CNMI Judiciary is just the first step in legislative process," Sablan said.

"But the first step can be the most important.

"I am very appreciative of Chairman Mollohan's decision to include money for the CNMI Judiciary at my request. He and the other Subcommittee members recognized the importance of this money to our court system."

The \$400,000 earmark funds, would be awarded under the terms of the Byrne Justice Improvement grant program. The money would be available for the Judiciary personnel who provide security on all three islands, and would help cushion the loss of Recovery Act funding the court system has been using for this purpose.

"The Recovery Act provided funding that the Judiciary used to hire security personnel," according to Sablan. "Prior to the Recovery Act, the Marshal Service Unit had six people protecting justices, judges, court staff and patrons on Saipan, but the courts on the Tinian and

Rota did not have any security.

"The earmark should allow for continuing security on Tinian and Rota."

Sablan's earmark would also be available to modernize the court's communications infrastructure. The court has an outdated LAN network and would like to add video conferencing capability. This could give the Judiciary the ability to conduct hearings remotely when there is an urgent case and no judge available to travel. The Judiciary also wants to provide technical training to keep its IT personnel up to speed.

Sablan said that one of the reasons the earmark has been included in the appropriation measure is because of the quality of the proposal. "The CNMI Judiciary provided me with a compelling project proposal outlining their needs. And that was the proposal I submitted to the Appropriations Committee," Sablan explained.

In December 2009, Sablan sent out letters to government agencies and nonprofit organizations in the Northern Marianas seeking earmark request proposals. He then submitted his official requests to the Appropriations Committee in March 2010 for projects that addressed a significant public need and that warranted federal funding.

Like the \$500,000 earmark for the Rota gym, the \$400,000 earmark for the Judiciary represents a significant increase over last year's appropriations for Sablan's projects.

"Part of the benefit of longevity in Congress is the relationship that is built up between individual representatives and other members and the committee staff," said Sablan. (PR)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

July 13, 1999

\$100K earmarked for legislators' pet projects

In a move that will satisfy those seeking public offices, nearly \$100,000 in remaining funds from earlier appropriation measures have been earmarked by the government for two pet projects of the Legislature in time for the November midterm elections. Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio has signed into law two bills passed by lawmakers that have set aside some \$91,240.22 for the construction of drainage and road paving on central Saipan as well as \$8,000 for the San Roque basketball court and outdoor stage. Both measures were offered by members of the House of Representatives for Precinct 3 and Precinct 4, respectively.

Teno welcomes tight watch on his spending powers

Shrugging off calls from federal officials to watch his spending of discretionary funds, Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday assured the U.S. Department of the Interior that he has been monitoring his expenditures since assuming office in January 1998. He, however, welcomed the suggestion that Legislature must check his spending of public funds, saying that he has put in place controls to ensure that government expenditures do not violate existing laws. "They are certainly welcome to monitor. I am monitoring my expenditures so there is no problem on that," Tenorio told reporters, reacting on the appeal from the Interior department to local legislators to watch the Office of the Governor's handling of its discretionary funds.

July 13, 2000

Tougher GED test for high school dropouts

The decline in the number of students taking the General Education Diploma test is troubling the Northern Marianas College, unsatisfied with the decrease in student enrollment under its Adult Basic Education program within the last two years. ABE Director Fe Calixterio laments seeing the program with very little participants following a recent move to increase GED standard scores to 45 from 35. But stakes are about to get higher as the American Council on Education gears up for striking changes in GED tests across all mainland states and insular areas effective January 2002. In this light, Ms. Calixterio is urging CNMI's high school dropouts to seize the last two remaining years before modifications are finally implemented.

Review tax incentive act

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Director Tee Abraham has aired concerns regarding a house legislation aiming to provide tax credit to employers who hire individuals with disabilities. Although mindful of the bill's good intentions, Ms. Abraham recommends a thorough review of the legislation, citing the initiative could lead to abuse of the proposed tax incentives. The bill otherwise known as the "Hire the Handicapped Tax Incentive Act of 2000" aims to grant every business or employer who hires or employs a person with disability a tax deduction from their tax or gross revenue in an amount which will equal the wages or salaries actually paid to the employee with disability.

July 13, 2001

5 options offered to resolve PCB crisis

The US Army Corps of Engineers has narrowed down to five options the proposed alternatives being eyed to rid Tanapag village of around 20,000 tons of PCB-contaminated soil. Federal authorities are now working to build up community acceptance on the specific method that will be taken to proceed with the cleanup. After ranking each option based on projected effectiveness, the Army Corps removed five alternatives from the list. The community is now left with five choices that include off-site disposal, off-site encapsulation with stabilization, on-site treatment by incineration, on-site treatment by Indirect Thermal Desorption, or no action.

DOE wires renovation funds to PSS

The US Department of Education has transferred to the Public School System \$420,000 in federal funds meant to address school renovations and emergency repairs. PSS was the first to receive the maintenance assistance funds among other educational institutions nationwide who aspired for the grant. With the funds now in place, the PSS is only awaiting CNMI public schools to submit their repair and renovation assessment needs. The financial assistance is open to all public schools on a competitive basis. Schools have until July 30, 2001, to turn in their applications, reminded PSS.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION

COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

GUALO RAI, SPRING PLAZA, SAIPAN MP, 96950 • TEL. NO. 664-8300 FAX NO. 664-8315

July 13, 2010



THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE CRM OFFICES:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. Department of Public Lands DLNR Parks & Recreation	06/24/10 SSm-2010-X-056	July 4th Camp-Out	Shoreline Areas	Shoreline APC	Approved (07/02/10)
2. DTC Saipan	06/29/10 SSm-2010-X-057	Filming	Shoreline Areas	Shoreline APC	Approved (07/02/10)*
3. Marianas Visitors Authority	06/29/10 SSm-2010-X-058	Filming	Shoreline Areas	Shoreline APC	Approved (07/02/10)*
4. Conrad Hofschneider	07/02/10 SPIm-2010-X-059	Dry Dock	Able Dock	Port & Industrial APC	Approved (07/02/10)*
5. Office of Representative Rafael S. Demapan	07/09/10 SSm-2010-X-060	Sugar Dock Rehabilitation	Chalan Kanoa	Shoreline APC	Under Review*
6. Miyuki Eto	07/12/10 SSm-2010-X-061	Filming	Shoreline Areas	Shoreline APC	Under Review*

Publication of the above list is in accordance with CRM Regulations, which require all permit applications to be published in a local newspaper within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the CRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the CRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APC's) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local CRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a CRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the CRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the CRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the CRM Regulations.

ADVERTISING
FEATURE

Mexican feast only at the Tijuana Mexican Restaurant



CLARISSA V. DAVID

From right, chief cook Peter Barol, co-owner Nellie Tawney, and guest.

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Culinary enthusiasts can whoop it up and enjoy Mexican fare served just the way they like it at the only Mexican restaurant around the block.

Located on the ground floor of Saipan Gold Beach Hotel along Beach Road, the Tijuana Mexican Restaurant has been recently revamped under new management.

The know-how of new owners Mohammed Aminoor Islam and Ajid Chandara Mondal now add to the competence of previous sole owner Nellie Tawney

boneless pork ribs marinated in secret spices served with Guacamole and chile dressing, for only \$12.95.

Have a go at their affordable Tinga Poblana, a delectably rich chicken dish cooked in white onion, garlic cloves, Mexican chorizo, chopped tomatoes, dried oregano, chipotle and avocado.

For only \$9.95, savour their Seafood Tostada, a specially seasoned mixed seafood dish propped on crispy corn tortillas.

Favourite Mexican standbys include tacos and quesadillas and all dine-in guests are served with on-the-house chips 'n salsa too, said Tawney.

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CLARISSA V. DAVID

The minimalist interior of the Tijuana Mexican Restaurant has a seating capacity of about 80 persons.

in managing this trendy Mexican bistro.

With its minimalist décor and the natural light coming through its glass windows that offer a wonderful view of the beach, the Tijuana Mexican Restaurant provides a bright, spacious dining location that's also great for party venue.

"We want to serve good food and give a nice dining experience people," said Islam, who just came back from living in Japan for a year. Before that, he resided on Saipan for a good 13 years.

Tijuana Mexican's bestsellers are prepared under the very particular eye of chief cook Peter Barol. Try his Carnitas, roasted

wash down a scrumptious Mexican meal than with their special margarita for only \$3.75, a drop-down from its original \$5 charge. "They can enjoy happy hour prices every day," added Tawney.

Guests who want to try their hand at darts may also use the electronic dartboards inside the restaurant. A playhouse for young visitors is also available.

Finding the need to diversify their carte du jour, Islam and Tawney plan to incorporate Japanese, Filipino, American and Chamorro cuisines on their menu soon.

Next month, Tawney said, guests can look forward to their special lunch buffet, reasonably



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Tijuana Mexican Restaurant is located on the ground floor of Saipan Gold Beach Hotel along Beach Road.

priced at \$7.95 and available on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays only. Their hearty buffet will be a fusion of international dishes and inclusive of bottomless iced tea.

The Tijuana Mexican Restaurant can also be used as a great setting for parties for all occasions. They do caterings for private functions as well. Catering orders must be placed at least three days in

advance and require a 50-percent down payment.

For now, guests can enjoy a la carte lunch at Tijuana Mexican Restaurant from 11am to 2pm and dinner is served from 6pm to 10pm.

Come to Tijuana Mexican Restaurant and enjoy their impeccably prepared Mexican cuisine. For information or reservations, call 235-4466 or 285-4466.



COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
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Attorneys for Plaintiff Commonwealth Development Authority.



IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff, vs. FELIPE Q. ATALIG, individually & dba CASA DE FELIPE and, ELVIRA CUSTODIO ATALIG, Defendants.

Civil Action No. 04-0242B
NOTICE OF SECOND AUCTION

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants Felipe Q. Atalig, individually and dba Casa de Felipe, and Elvira Custodio in the following described, real property situated in Ginalayan, Rota, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

- Real estate mortgage on **Tract No. 21769-R2-2**, situated in Ginalayan, Rota, CNMI, containing an area of 900 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Subdivision Survey Plat of Tract 21769-R2, DLS Check No. 3007/95, recorded as File No. 95-841, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office on April 05, 1995, including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith; And
- Real estate mortgage on **Tract No. 21769-R2-3**, situated in Ginalayan, Rota, CNMI, containing an area of 900 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Subdivision Survey Plat of Tract 21769-R2, DLS Check No. 3007/95, recorded as File No. 95-841, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office on April 05, 1995, including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith; And
- Real estate mortgage on **Tract No. 21769-R2-4**, situated in Ginalayan, Rota, CNMI, containing an area of 900 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Subdivision Survey Plat of Tract 21769-R2, DLS Check No. 3007/95, recorded as File No. 95-841, at the Commonwealth Recorder's Office on April 05, 1995, including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith.

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA's Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m., on Friday, July 23, 2010**, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

- Minimum Bid. No minimum opening bid.**
- Reserve.** The auction shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
 - To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
- Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Manuel A. Sablan, Executive Director, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235-7147; or to F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
- Deposit: Payment.** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.
- Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of Felipe Q. Atalig, individually and dba Casa de Felipe, and Elvira Custodio Atalig in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 17th day of June 2010.

/s/SANTIAGO F. TUDELA, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety



COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff, vs. ESTATE OF LORENZO I. GUERRERO and MATILDE V. GUERRERO, Defendants.

Civil Action No. 04-0366D
NOTICE OF AUCTION

The Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the Defendants the Estate of Lorenzo I. Guerrero and Matilde V. Guerrero in the following described, real property situated in As Lito, Saipan, CNMI will be sold at an auction:

- Tract No. 21851 "A"** situated in As Lito, Saipan, CNMI, containing an area of 20,000 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat Number 0256/77, the original of which was registered with the Land Registry as Document Number 7318, on the 4th of April 1978. Including all existing and future permanent improvements on the said real property, including all improvements, appurtenances and easements therewith.

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at CDA's Conference Room, Saipan, at **2:00 p.m., on Friday, July 23, 2010**, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

- Minimum Bid. No minimum opening bid.**
- Reserve.** The auction shall be held with reserve.
- Rights and Duties of Auctioneer.** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auctions with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction:
 - To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted;
 - To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
- Bids.** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Manuel A. Sablan, Executive Director, Commonwealth Development Authority, P.O. Box 502149, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7145, Fax: 235-7147; or to F. Matthew Smith, P.O. Box 501127, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
- Deposit: Payment.** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, cashier's check or credit card. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.
- Change of Terms.** Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
- Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property; contact CDA for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the Estate of Lorenzo I. Guerrero and Matilde V. Guerrero in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty, and subject to the redemption laws of the CNMI. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 17th day of June 2010.

/s/SANTIAGO F. TUDELA, Commissioner
Department of Public Safety



Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Aging gracefully

What's the secret to longevity? Frances Emily Baldwin of Great Britain said it was the daily fried egg sandwich, and she lived to be 114. Other centenarians swear by a nightly cocktail, a sense of humor, an occasional cigar. Oh, and stay away from doctors.

Gerontologists offer a sterner prescription for those who aspire to triple digits: Exercise. Eat right. Do the daily crossword. Get a dog. And for God's sake, stop driving.

Scientists say it's not all about lifestyle and environment. Extreme longevity runs in families, meaning some people are genetically predisposed to old old old age. This suggests they live longer despite their vices, not because of them. (Sorry.)

Want to know if you're one of those lucky people? A team of New England researchers has developed a model that can help predict whether a person will live into the late 90s or beyond, according to a study this month in the journal *Science*. The team identified 150 genetic markers that are associated with longevity. They also found 19 genetic "signatures" that could predict diseases such as dementia or hypertension. They hope to post an online test that will help people assess whether they are genetically blessed, or not.

Which brings us to Ozzy Osbourne. The 61-year-old shock rocker has hired a private laboratory to map his genetic profile—not to gauge his chances of living to 100 but to find out why he's not already dead. It's a fair question. Here's a guy who's famous for decades of over-the-top substance abuse, for biting the head off a live bat onstage, for lifting his dress (yes) to urinate on the Alamo while stumbling drunk. If scientists can figure out why Osbourne is still ticking, a spokesman said, they might be able to help others live longer.

"They're taking someone who's healthy, who should have disease, and looking at that," said Jon Armstrong, chief marketing officer for Cofactor Genomics in St. Louis. "What's in the DNA, and what does it have that others don't have?"

People are living longer and longer, thanks to medical advances, fried egg sandwiches and who knows what else. The U.S. Census says there are more than 80,000 centenarians living in America today; by 2050, there will be more than 800,000. If Ozzy Osbourne is one of them, then yeah, we ought to know why.

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Jefferson: Founding Father and connoisseur

By WADE GRAHAM
HISTORY NEWS SERVICE

This July 4th, Americans celebrated the 234th birthday of the United States and the 184th anniversary of the death of one of its founding fathers, Thomas Jefferson. We revere the third president for his statesmanship and for the ringing prose of the Declaration of Independence, which he authored.

Less well-known is the fact that Jefferson was also America's founding home and garden addict, a detail-obsessed improver who designed the perfect dwelling at Monticello, then endlessly remodeled it. He sank huge sums into landscaping his grounds in the latest styles and entertained a constant stream of guests with spreads of heirloom vegetables and fine French wine so lavish as to make an oenophile blush.

In doing so, Jefferson set the standard for the irresponsibly over-leveraged American homeowner, mortgaged to the hilt to enjoy the good life. At his death on July 4, 1826, Jefferson was so deep in debt to foreign creditors that everything he owned—including his slaves—had to be sold off.

It's hard to square such luxury and self-indulgence with the stern defender of the common man we know from history textbooks. As chief executive, he fought bitterly with Congress to cut the national debt.

He famously disliked pomp and circumstance, once receiving a British ambassador who was in full military regalia while wearing only his dressing gown and slippers. It caused an international incident.

Yet Jefferson himself couldn't resist the temptation of the finer things. As minister to France in the 1780s, he lived in a three-story house on the Champs Elysses, with three suites, stables, a full-time gardener, maids, cooks and a coachman. The rent on the whole lot cost more than his annual salary.

As president, he entertained like a power hostess, inviting even his enemies to his dinner table. He spared no expense. The White House wine bill alone was \$10,000 in his first presidential term. Not even patriotism could keep him from splurging on a choice item, such as the solid mahogany piano he had shipped from England in 1771 in defiance of the Continental Congress's non-importation resolution against Britain.

He designed his splendid house while barely out of college, then, after his sojourn in Europe, decided to rebuild it—continuously. Monticello was a construction site for decades. He installed

French three-part stacking windows, alcove beds, and a dumbwaiter sized specifically to lift wine bottles from the cellar to the parlor. He took down the second story and added a dome to complete the perfectly proportioned facade that looks out at us from the nickel.

In the garden he banished unsightly wooden slave quarters to improve the view, laid out winding scenic drives and built a charming pavilion with arched windows, topped with white painted Chinese railings. From his pavilion he could oversee the progress of his gardeners, who tended 150 fruit trees and up to 350 types of vegetables at one time, including some 50 varieties of peas, 44 varieties of beans, and upward of 30 varieties of cabbages. It was an organic cornucopia to make Alice Waters green with envy.

This was Jefferson's real project as a statesman retired to his farm—not farming, but building and rebuilding his dream of perfect elegance. To the extent that he could pay for it—through credit—cost was no object.

How could Jefferson reconcile his love of luxury with his democratic ideals? As a patriarch and landowner in a Virginia society that was profoundly pro-aristocratic, he was disinclined to renounce the refinement that advertised his status. In just the same way, the economic underpinnings of that status disinclined him to free his slaves—in spite of the fact that he was an early and harsh critic of slavery. His own penchant for the finer things didn't stop him from denouncing the habits of luxury in others or of warning young Americans traveling to Europe not to spend too much time looking at European art and architecture because it would distract them from the corruption of the rich and the poverty of the masses.

This seems like clear hypocrisy, but it also points to the deep ambivalence in the American mind between our professed ideals and our economic imperatives. We mistrust wealth, but we simultaneously worship it. Like Jefferson, we idealize the supposed simplicity of rural life, but like him we want our country weekend houses well-stocked with all the modern comforts. And, like him, we're not willing to balance the checkbook if means sacrificing what he called "the pursuit of happiness," embodied in nothing so much as our national pursuit of real estate.

We can recognize ourselves in Thomas Jefferson, because his contradictions, and his addictions, are our own.

Wade Graham, adjunct professor of public policy at Pepperdine University, is a writer for History News Service. His book, *American Eden: From Monticello to the High Line, The Unexpected History of Our Country's Gardens*, will be published next year.

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Teaching hatred at an early age

By **ALI REZA ESHRAGHI**
THE INSTITUTE FOR WAR&PEACE REPORTING

TEHHRAN—The early morning chill was still in the air when the children, some as young as 7, were lined up in front of their school for a ceremony during which they were instructed to shout, “Death to America,” and hurl shoes at effigies of Uncle Sam, or the Great Satan, as he’s known here.

The event, held at schools across the country, was part of the annual celebration of the anniversary of the 1979 Islamic Revolution. It was organized by the Student Basij, a subdivision of Iran’s powerful paramilitary movement, which in recent years has evolved into a powerful defender of the current regime.

The Basij first made a name for itself during the Iran-Iraq war of the 1980s, providing an endless stream of youthful volunteers, ready to walk across minefields or brave Iraqi fire to clear a way for regular Iranian troops.

The movement fielded at least 550,000 youths during the course of the eight-year war. Thirty-six thousand were killed or were reported missing in action.

More recently, the Basij has acquired a reputation as a domestic security force loyal to the Iranian regime. It was deployed on the streets of Tehran to counter the widespread protests that followed last year’s presidential election.

Currently, the Student Basij has a presence in 54,000 of the country’s 150,000 schools and is expanding fast.

Once limited to adolescents, in recent months the organization has begun recruiting younger children as well. Since November, 6,000 “Basij centers” have opened in primary schools across the country.

The commander of the Student Basij, Mohammad Saleh Jokar, has said the primary schools are being targeted to familiarize youngsters with the “Basij culture, so that they will be fully prepared when they go on to join its ranks in a few years’ time.” Jokar asserts that 4.6 million of the 14 million schoolchildren in Iran have signed up to the Basij, although such figures are hard to corroborate.

Military prowess with a strong ideological slant is an important part of the Basij’s image, and forms an important part of the training the organization provides in schools.

Student Basij Day on Oct. 30 commemorates the death of Hossein Fahmideh, a 13-year-old boy who strapped grenades to himself and threw himself under an Iraqi tank in 1980. At the time, Supreme Leader

Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini said the teenager was Iran’s real leader. Officially, the Basij recruiting drive in Iranian schools is to help build a 20-million-strong army, an idea conceived by the late Ayatollah Khomeini in the early years of the war with Iraq.

Twenty years after the end of the war, Basij and Revolutionary Guards commanders are still carrying out that order. But in reality, the Basij’s purpose has shifted from external to domestic security.

To attract recruits among today’s youths, however, Basij leaders know they have to offer more than weapons training. That’s why they offer a wide range of activities, including sports, the arts, culture and technology.

Aware of the importance of the Internet, the Basij has been busy training its own bloggers. The goal was to have 10,000 youths on line who could use cyberspace to “promote the values of the Islamic Revolution” and—significantly—to counter “soft threats.” The Basij has even developed its own politically correct video games.

In “Devil Den,” Iranian students on a pilgrimage to Karbala in Iraq are captured by American soldiers. The Americans turn them over to Israel, which plans to perform experiments on them so that they will mutate into Israeli soldiers. An escape attempt results in a pitched battle with Israeli soldiers, which the Iranians win before returning home.

Those who protest the use of minors as an auxiliary force do so at their own peril.

Isa Saharkhiz, formerly head of the domestic media department at the culture ministry, was jailed last year after claiming that the Basij had been training underprivileged children and orphans in urban counter-insurgency techniques at special camps for a number of years.

No one, however, disputes that the Basij is able to affect public policy when it deploys its youth members to participate in pro-government demonstrations.

When Basiji schoolgirls in May marched, urging the authorities to take action against women who flouted the Islamic dress code, police immediately began arresting young people on the streets for “bad hejab” or immodest behavior.

Ali Reza Eshraghi is a reporter in Iran who writes for The Institute for War & Peace Reporting, a nonprofit organization that trains journalists in areas of conflict. Readers may write to the author at the Institute for War & Peace Reporting, 48 Grays Inn Road, London WC1X 8LT, U.K.; Web site: www.iwpr.net.

Denying a young person’s dream is very un-American

By **BOB RAY SANDERS**
FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

Dreams or hopes or seemingly unattainable wishes—whatever you want to call them—are all some people have when they talk about a future.

So why would we ever tell a bright-eyed youngster in this country who is hungry for knowledge, eagerly ambitious and desperate for the slightest chance that he or she doesn’t have the right to dream?

That’s what we are saying to hundreds of thousands who go to school, apply themselves with vibrant vigor and achieve in ways many find unimaginable based on their life’s circumstances alone.

Some of us have no problem slamming doors in their faces, snatching opportunity from their grasps, cursing their existence and even kicking them out of the country.

I’m talking about the children of illegal immigrants who were brought here by their parents and, despite the place of their birth, know only one country: America. In fact, as far as they are concerned, they are American.

They have learned English, held their hands over their hearts as they recited the Pledge of Allegiance, excelled in public schools, been accepted in our universities and some have died wearing the uniform of the U.S. military.

But in our zeal to crack down on illegal immigration, to “protect our borders” and supposedly shore up our economy, some of these young people—among our best and brightest—are being targeted for deportation.

That’s not only mean; it’s crazy.

The recent cases of the 19-year-old Harvard student detained while trying to board a plane in San Antonio and the two brothers, ages 19 and 20, arrested on an Amtrak train are just three examples of why Congress should pass the DREAM Act.

President Barack Obama has called for comprehensive immigration reform that lawmakers don’t have the will to tackle, much less pass, in this bitter election year. But there is no reason not to take an intermediate step and make it possible for children brought to this country as minors to remain here while pursuing an education.

The legislation, officially named Development, Relief and Edu-

cation for Alien Minors, would not give anyone citizenship, but it would make them legal residents as long as they met certain qualifications.

If an illegal immigrant was younger than 16 when brought to this country, the DREAM Act would provide steps for awarding permanent residency that would include the ability to speak English, enrollment in higher education (university or vocational school) or enlisting in the military.

While the students would be eligible for private loans, they would not qualify for Pell Grants.

After receiving their education and becoming permanent residents, then they can get on the road to citizenship provided they abide by all other immigration rules.

It makes sense that we encourage these youngsters to get an education that, in turn, makes them more valuable citizens who will become taxpayers.

They should not be punished for a decision their parents made, and they should not have to remain in the shadows as they try to pursue their careers.

If Congress continues to drag its feet on this matter, then the president should make good on his campaign promise to do something about immigration by issuing an executive order prohibiting the deportation of any student in good standing who came to this country under age 16.

No other student should have to go through what Harvard sophomore Eric Balderas and brothers Carlos and Rafael Robles have gone through.

On the contrary, we should encourage and assist these young men and women to do the best they can in school and then to seek college degrees. And then we should welcome them into our communities as contributing members of society without any stigmas attached.

After all, they are ours.

They are part of us.

They are we.

How dare we deprive them of the very right to dream?

Bob Ray Sanders is a columnist for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. Readers may write to him at: 400 W. 7th Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102, or via e-mail at bobray@star-telegram.com.

Letters to the Editor

Baseless fear and unfounded judgment

Kudos to Pete Delos Santos of Utah on your letters to the editor dated July 7, 2010. I am glad that, after 13 long years of staying on Saipan, you finally decided to leave for another place where you can explore more of your talent and skills.

As you said, fears that foreign nationals will enter politics is baseless and out of the question at this early stage of the struggle. We are not a threat at all to CNMI politics. Most alien workers here are, with a few exceptions, a patient and peace-loving people.

And if we were to analyze the current situation on the islands, many elected politicians are married to foreign nationals and yet indigenous voters still chose to vote for these candidates without fear that they will be influenced by their foreign spouses.

The truth is that the CNMI needs foreign nationals to maintain the workforce and sustain the economy and, because the CNRA made it possible for foreign workers to seek improved status, we will not hesitate to work on securing our immigration status while earning a living because we want stability, we want to settle down without fear and want to live in the place that we have come to call home—a peace loving diverse community and its people.

In 1978, the CNMI admitted a substantial number of foreign workers through a permit program. Under this program the CNMI government executed employment contracts and it was administered by the CNMI Department of Labor and Employment Services that included a provision that says, “*Any nonresident worker to be employed under this agreement shall be utilized to train resident worker(s) and shall submit a report to the Director of Employment Services regarding the training of resident workers(s).*” My question is, was this done by both employers and Department of Labor and Employment Services? I don’t think so.

Thirty years later, on May 8, 2008, former President Bush signed into law the Consolidated Natural Resources Act that federalized the CNMI. If the CNMI government had been dedicated and sincere in administering Nonresident Agreement Section B, Paragraph L, there would no longer be foreign workers on the islands at this very moment because they would have trained a local workforce within that period of time. There won’t be arguments on improved status for foreign workers, public hearings, forums and motorcades in support of the five recommendations of Interior to the U.S. Congress.

And why is it that DOI recommended five options for the foreign workers’ status in the CNMI, when the U.S. Immigration and Nationality Act already exists and is in effect? Is it because the CNMI badly needs foreign workers? If that is so, then DOI is strongly supporting the CNMI’s economy. The message is crystal clear—that the DOI had been in consultation with the CNMI government long before they drafted the five recommendations. Otherwise DOI would not be in compliance with the U.S. Congress’ requirements as provided under the CNRA. If DOI is in non-compliance with the order under the CNRA, then that five recommendations will surely be rejected by Congress and it will be return back to where it belongs, and in that sense, the public hearings by the Senate Committee on Federal Relations and Independent Agencies on the status of alien workers is very essential. Mother Theresa says and I quote: “*I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot; together we can do great things.*”

Carlito Marquez
Puerto Rico, Saipan

A reflection of the CNMI

The history of the Northern Marianas College is truly a reflection of the entire CNMI, that is, unfocused direction, interference by outside forces, financially mismanaged, and stained perhaps by corruption to a certain degree.

One of the goals of our higher educational institution from the very start is to provide, among other things, the needed human resource required or demanded by society. NMC obviously failed, as evidenced by the many specialized skilled workers we imported that local human resources could have been developed to satisfy. There is to date too much political interference in the management of the institution that obviously may compromise quality and integrity of the system in place. Financial issues seem to be a challenge due to limited support or perhaps under-qualified staff.






Of course, I may be wrong but observation through the years will point to this same conclusion. What is important is to learn from the past and if we really care for our college, we should all continue to criticize constructively in hope of having the institution improved.

Frank Atalig
Sinapalo 1, Rota

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼77°	▲85° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°	▲86° ▼77°	▲84° ▼77°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲89 ▼79
Palau	Partly Cloudy	▲87 ▼78
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	▲86 ▼77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲83 ▼76
Pohnpei	Showers	▲87 ▼73
Kosrae	Sunny	▲89 ▼75
Majuro	Rain	▲82 ▼76

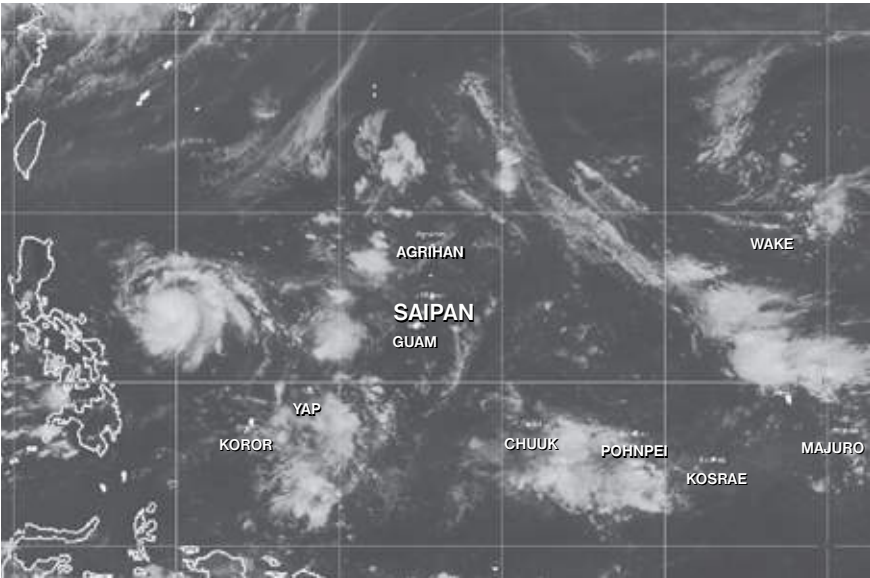
Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲57 ▼46
Beijing	Thundershowers	▲87 ▼71
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲88 ▼75
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲83 ▼73
London	Showers	▲75 ▼62
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲76 ▼65
Manila	Thundershowers	▲88 ▼77
Melbourne	Showers	▲53 ▼46
Miami	Thundershowers	▲91 ▼81
New York	Thundershowers	▲84 ▼76
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲84 ▼73
Paris	Rain	▲77 ▼63
Pusan	Thundershowers	▲77 ▼71
Rome	Sunny	▲91 ▼69
Salem	Sunny	▲77 ▼53
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲61 ▼56
Seoul	Thundershowers	▲83 ▼72
Tokyo	Thundershowers	▲83 ▼75
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲88 ▼78

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
2:40 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet	
7:35 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet	
2:59 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.6 Feet	
9:57 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, JULY 12, 2010
Western North Pacific between Equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical storm 03W has been named Conson and is centered near 14N130E. Conson (03W) is moving west-northwest at 14 mph with maximum sustained winds of 50 mph. Numerous showers and a few thunderstorms are occurring west of a line from 11N133E to 16N133E. For more information, see JTWC bulletins issued under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW or WFO Guam Public Advisories issued under WMO Header WTPQ31 PGUM. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms associated with an upper-level low centered near 24N143E are present just north of the Marianas within 75 miles of a line from 22N143E to 24N143E. A surface trough stretches southwestward from 18N142E to 12N140E to 2N138E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:54 AM	6:51 PM
Wednesday	5:54 AM	6:51 PM
Thursday	5:54 AM	6:51 PM
Friday	5:55 AM	6:51 PM
Saturday	5:55 AM	6:51 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	7:04 AM	8:07 PM
Wednesday	8:06 AM	8:54 PM
Thursday	9:06 AM	9:39 PM
Friday	10:04 AM	10:22 PM
Saturday	11:02 AM	11:05 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
 - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
 - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
 - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
 - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
 - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
 - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
 - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
 - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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 - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 10, 2010

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM C09597 5:00am 5:30am 1, 5	GUAM-ROTA (ROP) C09598 6:30pm 7:00pm 4, 7
SAIPAN-GUAM C09317 4:25am 5:15am Daily C09313 8:30am 9:20am Daily C09601 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C09603 3:05pm 3:55pm Daily C09605 6:35pm 7:25pm Daily C09599 9:35pm 10:25pm Daily	GUAM-SAIPAN C09316 2:45am 3:35am Daily C09596 7:00am 7:50am Daily C09600 10:05am 10:55am Daily C09602 1:40pm 2:30pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C09604 5:10pm 6:00pm Daily C09606 8:10pm 9:00pm Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) DL287 6:00am 8:35am Daily DL297 3:20pm 5:55pm Daily DL289 4:35pm 7:10pm Daily	NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN DL290 9:45am 2:35pm Daily DL298 10:25am 3:00pm Daily DL288 8:40pm 1:10am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-NAGOYA DL640 7:40am 10:20am Daily	NAGOYA-SAIPAN DL641 9:10am 1:45am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS) OZ608 3:20am 6:50am 1, 5	BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN OZ607 9:00pm 2:20am+1 4, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) OZ604 2:20am 6:00am 1 OZ604 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ606 3:30pm 7:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7	SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN OZ605 9:00am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 OZ603 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 OZ603 8:10pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) FM844 2:50am 5:40am 2, 6	SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN FM843 7:15pm 1:50am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) CZ3008 3:30am 6:40am 2, 6	GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN CZ3007 7:30pm 2:40am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) OZ604/701 2:20am 11:25am 1 via ICN OZ604/701 2:50am 11:25am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN C09317/891 4:25am 9:45am 6 via GUM DL287/173 6:00am 10:10pm Daily via NRT DL640/629 7:40am 10:35pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via NGO C09603/933 3:05pm 8:40pm Daily via GUM C09603/893 3:05pm 9:10pm 3, 5 via GUM-Palau OZ606/703 3:30pm 11:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN C09599/PR111 9:35pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN OZ704/605 12:10am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN DL630/641 6:30am 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 via NGO DL172/288 7:40am 1:10am+1 Daily via NRT C0890/9606 10:55am 9:00pm 6 via GUM OZ702/603 12:45pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/603 12:45pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN PR110/C09596 10:00pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM C0892/9596 10:10pm 7:50am+1 3, 5 via GUM-Palau C0934/9596 10:55pm 7:50am+1 Daily via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG OZ604/721 2:20am 11:45am 1 via ICN OZ604/721 2:50am 11:45am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN C09603/909 3:05am 9:30pm 1, 5 via GUM OZ606/723 3:30pm 10:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN	HONG KONG-SAIPAN OZ724/605 12:30am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/603 1:15pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN C0910/9596 10:35pm 7:50am+1 1, 5 via GUM
Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)	

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
				FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

The ties that bind: Villagomez family holds grand reunion

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Five generations of the Villagomez clan came together last week in a five-day celebration of life and their passionate familial ties that span years and miles.

The Villagomez reunion, held from July 7 to 11, gathered family members from Germany, Virginia, California, Florida, South Korea, Hawaii, and Japan to go back to their roots and have a grand time.

For U.S. Army Capt. John Cepeda, who has been away for years because of military duty, family gatherings are what he misses the most when he's away. "It's good to see that kids, even adults, have all grown up."

At the forefront of planning and preparations for the big event were Patricia V. Cepeda and Thomas P. Villagomez, former senator and current vice chairman of the Commonwealth Ports Authority board.

What Patricia and Thomas had in mind was for everyone, especially the younger generations, to bond with Manuel "Kiyu" Villagomez, the patriarch of the clan.

"We wanted our kids to come and spend quality time with our dad while he's still healthy," said Patricia.

According to Thomas, preparations began in February, a month after Manuel "Kiyu" celebrated his 86th birthday. "We planned ahead, because we wanted to inform everybody who were off-island to join the reunion."

Growing up in a very close-knit family, Thomas underscored how important it was for them to be able to spend time together, especially since they lost their mother, Luise Villagomez, in 2007.

"Our mom really put us together. We always make sure that we're partying... It's a close knit family and that's one thing that I'm really proud of, being the eldest son," Thomas said.

The union of Manuel and Luise brought forth 12 progeny: Linda Cepeda, Patricia Cepeda, Thomas Villagomez, Barbara Wesley, Manuel Villagomez,



Manuel "Kiyu" Seman Villagomez shares a light moment with his family after CNMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan awarded him a congressional commendation on July 9 at Fiesta Resort & Spa. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**



Manuel "Kiyu" Seman Villagomez takes a stroll with his grandson, Capt. John V. Cepeda of the U.S. Army, at Banzai Cliff during their around the island tour on July 8. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

Jr., Joseph Villagomez, Edward Villagomez, David Villagomez, Nora Borja, John Villagomez, Ramona Manglona, and Antonia Jerome.

Thomas said they really wanted to gather round all their relations for Papa/Grandpa Kiyu. "We're really fortunate to get everybody together," he said.

"It's been a while since we got together. Some of them are meeting for the first time," Patricia added.

Manuel "Kiyu" Villagomez was apparently oblivious to the plot. Then again, he noticed that family members from abroad began arriving one after another. "That's when he asked what's



Former senator Thomas Villagomez mows the lawn of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library July 7. The library beautification project was part of the activities during the Villagomez family reunion held from July 7 to 11. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

going on," Patricia recounted.

In a sudden twist of fate, though, the family unexpectedly lost a member. Joseph "Uncle Joe" Villagomez, Manuel "Kiyu's" sixth child, passed away on June 13.

"Dealing with Dad's death is hard for us and my kids, but we cope with the help of the whole family," said Joe's daughter, Luise Villagomez Sanchez.

Joes is best remembered as the life of the party, along with his favorite line, "I love my family!" "He's always shouting and laughing. He's the one making the family [livelier]," said Patricia.

Mourning the loss of Joe, Patricia thought the family should tone down the revelry they planned for the reunion but realized that Joe, with his zest for life, wouldn't want his family to do that. "He would love to see all of us together," said Joe's 13-year-old niece, Rachel Borja.

Thomas believes his brother would understand that they are doing it for their old man. "We know [Joe is] happy because we're here to celebrate life," Thomas added.



Walter V. Wesley, John V. Cepeda, and Charles V. Cepeda raise the flag before the start of their cleanup project held at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library on July 7. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



Happy birthday greetings go out to Sanivette Babauta, who is celebrating her birthday today, July 13, 2010. We love you a lot and we hope you enjoy your day!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday to Kimberly Attao Concepcion, who is celebrating her 27th birthday today, July 13! We wish you the best on your special day! Warm greetings come from your parents Aldebert Sr. and Celina; your siblings Aldebert Jr., Christopher and Michael; your sisters-in-law Carmin, Natsu and Sheryl; your nephews Aldebert III, Joseph and Brian; your beau Cole; and the rest of your Chalan Piao family! Party like a rock star! Cheers!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations go out to Jonaville Cuervo, who graduated at the top of her class from Hopwood Junior High School on June 15, 2010. She is the youngest daughter of Marco and Zeny Cuervo. Her eldest sibling, Marjorie, also got the highest award in Hopwood's Class 2009.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Business

BP happy with new oil-leak effort, but no promises

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Underpromising with hopes of overdelivering, BP said Sunday that it is making progress on what could prove its most effective effort yet to contain the Gulf oil leak, but cautioned that the verdict could be several days away.

A new cap being placed atop the gusher is intended to provide a tight seal and might eventually allow the oil giant to capture all the crude leaking from the well for the first time since an April 20 oil rig explosion set off the environmental crisis. But several

prior failed attempts to stop the leak have made BP PLC careful to keep expectations grounded.

"We're pleased with our progress," said BP senior vice president Kent Wells, who then hastened to add the operation was still expected to last up to

six more days.

Asked during a conference call if the new cap and collection efforts would end the spilling of oil into the Gulf, Wells said only that BP will capture all the oil "at some point."

Wells said BP may have to bring another vessel back online and add additional collection capacity in order to stop the oil flow altogether.

Officials won't be satisfied the cap is working until they've run tests on whether it can withstand the tremendous pressure of oil pushing up from below the seafloor, Wells said.

"We've tried to work out as many of the bugs as we can. The challenge will come with something unexpected," he said.

The well has been gushing largely unchecked since an old, leaky cap was removed from the wellhead Saturday to make way for the new one. Between 88 million and 174 million gallons have already spilled into the Gulf, according to federal estimates.

Wary Gulf residents reserved judgment about BP's latest effort and said the damage already done to the environment, fishing and tourism will haunt the region for a long time either way.

"At this point, there have been so many ups and downs, disappointments, that everybody down here is like, 'We'll believe it when we see it,'" said Keith Kennedy, a charter boat captain in Venice, La.

Robotic submarines finished removing a busted piece of pipe that was bolted around the leak around 3 a.m. Sunday. That paved the way for the installation of a pipe-like connector called a flange spool that will sit on top of the spewing well bore. The new cap would be mounted on top of that connector and have flexible pipes leading up to surface ships.

Capping the leaking well again

How BP intends to remove the LMRP containment cap on the leaking oil well a mile (1.6 km) below the ocean surface and install a new tighter sealing cap designed to capture all the oil flow.

Process started Saturday; will take 4-7 days

Step 1

LMRP cap (in place since June 3) removed from top of blowout preventer

Step 2

Robot submarines remove riser fragment, unbolt top flange

Step 3

Flange transition spool lowered over end of drill pipe; bolted onto lower flange

Step 4

Capping stack put in place; built to seal leak, provide more connections for vessels to collect oil

Capping stack has valves to restrict, shut off oil flow, sensors to measure flow rate, but not known if it can withstand well's pressure

Flange transition spool
12 ft. (3.7 m) high
15,000 lb. (6,803 kg)

Capping stack
18 ft. (5.5 m) high
150,000 lb. (68,038 kg)

Blowout preventer (BOP)
Sea floor

Why do it

- Collection vessel connections would be hurricane-ready
- Cap can capture more oil
- Helps simplify kill process with relief well
- Can test condition of well's wall

© 2010 MCT

Source: BP
Graphic: Judy Treible, Tim Goheen

Chinese credit firm says US worse risk than China

BEIJING (AP)—A Chinese firm that aims to compete with Western rating agencies declared Washington a worse credit risk than Beijing in its first report on government debt Sunday amid efforts by China to boost its influence in global markets.

Dagong International Credit Rating Co.'s verdict was a break with Moody's, Standard & Poors and Fitch, which say U.S. government debt is the world's safest. Dagong said it rated Washington below China and 11 other countries such as Switzerland and Australia due to high debt and slow growth. It warned the U.S. is among

countries that might face rising borrowing costs and risks of default.

The report comes amid complaints by Beijing that Western rating agencies fail to give China full credit for its economic strength, boosting borrowing costs—a criticism echoed by some foreign analysts. At June's G-20 summit in Toronto, President Hu Jintao called for the creation of a more accurate system.

Dagong, founded in 1994 to rate Chinese corporate debt, says it is privately owned and pledges to make its judgments impartially. But in a sign of official support, its announcement Sunday took place at the head-

quarters of the Xinhua News Agency, the ruling Communist Party's main propaganda outlet.

Dagong's chairman, Guan Jianzhong, said the current Western-led rating system is to blame for the global crisis and Europe's debt woes. He said it "provides the wrong credit-rating information" and fails to reflect changing conditions.

"Dagong wants to make realistic and fair ratings," he said.

Beijing has more than \$900 billion invested in U.S. Treasury debt and has appealed to Washington to avoid hurting the value of the dollar or China's holdings as it spends heavily on its stimulus.

Debt commission leaders paint gloomy picture

BOSTON (AP)—The heads of President Barack Obama's national debt commission painted a gloomy picture Sunday as the United States struggles to get its spending under control.

Republican Alan Simpson and Democrat Erskine Bowles told a meeting of the National Governors Association that everything needs to be considered—including curtailing popular tax breaks, such as the home mortgage deduction, and instituting a financial trigger mechanism for gaining Medicare coverage.

The nation's total federal debt next year is expected to exceed \$14 trillion—about \$47,000 for every U.S. resident.

"This debt is like a cancer," Bowles said in a sober presentation nonetheless lightened by humorous asides between him and Simpson. "It is truly going to

destroy the country from within."

Simpson said the entirety of the nation's current discretionary spending is consumed by the Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security programs.

"The rest of the federal government, including fighting two wars, homeland security, education, art, culture, you name it, veterans, the whole rest of the discretionary budget, is being financed by China and other countries," said Simpson. China alone currently holds \$920 billion in U.S. IOUs.

Bowles said if the U.S. makes no changes it will be spending \$2 trillion by 2020 just for interest on the national debt.

"Just think about that: All that money, going somewhere else, to create jobs and opportunity somewhere else," he said.

Simpson, the former Republican senator from Wyoming,

and Bowles, the former White House chief of staff under Democratic President Bill Clinton, head an 18-member commission. It's charged with coming up with a plan by Dec. 1 to reduce the government's annual deficits to 3 percent of the national economy by 2015.

Bowles led successful 1997 talks with Republicans on a balanced budget bill that produced government surpluses the last three years Clinton was in office and the first year of Republican George W. Bush's presidency. Simpson, as the Senate's GOP whip in 1990, helped round up votes for a budget bill in which President George H.W. Bush broke his "read my lips" pledge not to raise taxes.

Despite their backgrounds, both Simpson and Bowles said they were not 100 percent confident of success this time around.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

China confirms it renewed Google operating license

BEIJING (AP)—China confirmed Sunday that it renewed Google's license to operate after a monthslong standoff over Internet censorship, saying the company has pledged not to provide "lawbreaking content." The California-based giant said Friday it had received approval to operate in the world's most populous country, after it agreed to stop automatically rerouting users of Google.cn to its site in Hong Kong, which is not subject to China's online censorship. Search requests at Google.cn from within mainland China will now require an extra click that then takes the user to the Hong Kong site. That small concession by Google comes as the company tries to uphold its anti-censorship principles while protecting its economic interests. The Mountain View, Calif., company wants to remain in China because its online advertising market has the potential to grow as high as \$15 billion to \$20 billion annually in just a few years. For its part, China seems to realize losing an industry giant like Google would set back its innovation efforts. Renewing Google's license also mutes a high-profile dispute at a time when American and European companies have said China has become a less friendly environment in which to do business.

Asian stocks lifted by Wall Street, China trade

TOKYO (AP)—Asian stock markets rose

Monday, lifted by robust Chinese trade figures that eased worries the global recovery is losing momentum. In Japan, a weaker yen offset concerns about the country's economy after the ruling party's defeat in upper house elections Sunday. The Nikkei 225 stock average reversed early losses and finished the morning session up 9,592.11 points, or 0.1 percent, at 9,592.11. Hong Kong's Hang Seng added 0.6 percent to 20,503.80 and the Shanghai Composite index advanced 1.1 percent to 2,497.88. Miners helped push Australia's S&P/ASX 200 up 0.4 percent to 4,413.90. Benchmarks in South Korea, Taiwan, Singapore and New Zealand also rose.

Bank of Korea raises growth forecast to 5.9 pct

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea's central bank raised its forecast for the country's economic growth this year to 5.9 percent on solid exports as well as capital and consumer spending amid a stronger global recovery. The Bank of Korea, which had previously expected an expansion of 5.2 percent in 2010, made the revision Monday in a report on the economic outlook for the second half of the year. "Goods exports and facilities investment are forecast to maintain strong growth owing to stronger recovery of the global economy, (a) favorable IT industry and demand for changes in production facilities," the bank said. Consumer spending, meanwhile, will get a boost from higher household purchasing power, it added.

Nation

Napolitano meets with Brewer at governors meeting

BOSTON (AP)—Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano met privately on Sunday with her successor as Arizona governor as the Obama administration challenges the state's immigration law.

Napolitano, a Democrat, huddled for a half-hour behind closed doors with Republican Jan Brewer in Boston during the National Governors Association summer meeting. Napolitano was in town to provide the

governors with a classified national security briefing.

Slated to be implemented July 29, the Arizona law would require state

and local police to question and possibly arrest illegal immigrants during the enforcement of other laws such as traffic stops. Last week, the Obama

administration filed suit in federal court to block it, arguing that immigration is a federal issue.

Napolitano ignored a request for comment following their meeting, but Brewer said the two did not discuss the lawsuit. Instead, she said they had a cordial conversation centered on her efforts to win Arizona more National Guard troops to guard its border with Mexico, as well as her plea for reconnaissance helicopters and more unmanned aerial vehicles to prevent illegal crossings.

"Our parting words, were, you know, 'I'd be remiss if I didn't ask you for my SCAAP dollars,'" Brewer said with a laugh, referring to money the state believes it is due for incarcerating illegal immigrants under the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program. However, the program is run by the Justice Department, not Napolitano's Homeland Security Department.

Arizona's total prison budget is about \$900 million a year, and state officials say illegal immigrants make up about 15 percent of their prison population.

Napolitano, while Arizona governor from 2003 to 2009, routinely sent the federal government bills for reimbursement.

Brewer met with President Barack Obama at the White House last month to discuss the immigration issue.

A week earlier, the president announced he would be stationing up to 1,200 National Guard troops along to border—mostly in Arizona—to bolster border incursion efforts.

Brewer supports a proposal to add 6,000 troops along the southwestern border, with 3,000 stationed in Arizona.



United States Secretary of Homeland Security Janet Napolitano leaves a private meeting with Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer at the annual meeting of the National Governors Association, Sunday, July 11, 2010, in Boston.

'Barefoot Bandit' nabbed after two years as fugitive

NASSAU, Bahamas (AP)—For two years he stayed a step ahead of the law—stealing cars, powerboats and even airplanes, police say, while building a reputation as a 21st-century folk hero. On Sunday, Colton Harris-Moore's celebrity became his downfall.

Witnesses on the Bahamian island of Eleuthera recognized the 19-year-old dubbed the "Barefoot Bandit" and called police, who captured him after a high-speed boat chase, Bahamas Police Commissioner Ellison Greenslade said at a celebratory news conference in Nassau, the capital.

Greenslade said shots were fired during the water chase but he did not say who fired them. He also said Harris-Moore was carrying a handgun that he tried to throw away.

Another senior police official, however, said police fired to disable the motor on the suspect's stolen boat, and that Harris-Moore threw his gun in the water. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss the case, also said that

police recovered a laptop and a GPS locator from the suspect.

Police flew Harris-Moore in shackles to Nassau. True to his nickname, the teen with close-shorn hair was shoeless as he walked off the plane wearing short camouflage cargo pants, a white long-sleeved shirt and a bulletproof vest.

Harris-Moore is blamed for several thefts in the Bahamas in the week since allegedly crash-landing a stolen plane there, and Bahamian authorities said he will be prosecuted for those crimes before the start of any U.S. extradition proceedings.

The 6-foot-5-inch Harris-Moore had been on the run since escaping from a Washington state halfway house in 2008. He is accused of breaking into dozens of homes and committing burglaries across Washington, as well as in British Columbia and Idaho.

He is also suspected of stealing at least five planes—including the aircraft he allegedly lifted in Indiana and flew more than 1,000 miles (1,600 kilometers) to the Bahamas, despite a lack of formal flight training.

ACROSS THE NATION

Uncle of shooting victim rejects letter of apology

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—The uncle of an unarmed man fatally shot by a former transit police officer has harsh words to describe a letter of apology from the officer. Speaking outside an Oakland church Saturday night, Oscar Grant's uncle, Cephus Johnson, rejected the letter released Friday, terming it a "ploy." Johnson said he and the Grant family didn't believe the words in Johannes Mehserle's handwritten note, saying it's an attempt at gaining the judge's sympathy before sentencing. Mehserle was convicted of involuntary manslaughter by a Los Angeles jury Thursday for the 2009 fatal shooting of the 22-year-old Grant on a train platform in Oakland. Mehserle's lawyer, Michael Rains, tells the San Francisco Chronicle he will seek a delay in Mehserle's Aug. 6 sentencing. Rains did not immediately return a call Sunday from The Associated Press seeking comment.

Oakland man arrested after child thrown in traffic

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—A 21-year-old man Oakland police say threw a toddler in front of a moving car is in custody after being arrested by an off-duty police officer. Police say the officer saw the man shake the 18-month girl and throw her into oncoming traffic around 5:39 p.m. Saturday. The child was hit by a car, but police say she es-

caped serious injury. She was taken to a hospital, where her condition is unknown. After stopping to give aid to the little girl, the officer pursued the man, finding him scuffling with several motorists who had stopped to help. When on-duty police officers arrived, they subdued the man with a Taser stun gun. Police did not release the name of the suspect, or of the little girl. It was not known if the two were related.

Vt. scrap-wood dinosaur posing modern-day problem

POST MILLS, Vt. (AP)—Does a 25-foot-tall, 122-foot-long dinosaur need a permit to avoid extinction? That's the unlikely dilemma posed by "Vermontasaurus," a whimsical sculpture thrown together with scrap wood by a Vermont man. The oddity now faces opposition from neighbors and regulatory challenges from government entities that he fears could force him to dismantle it. It's art, not edifice, says Brian Boland. "They should leave me alone. It's a piece of artwork," he said. Boland, 61, is a former teacher, hot-air balloon designer and pilot who runs the Post Mills Airport, a 52-acre airfield. Last month, he decided to turn a pile of broken wooden planks and other detritus on the edge of his property into something more. Boland says was the idea was to build a sculpture that could be a community gathering place, with no admission and no commercial element.

Holder raises question on Sept. 11 death penalty

WASHINGTON (AP)—Attorney General Eric Holder says there's a real question about whether a terrorist suspect such as self-professed Sept. 11 mastermind Khalid Sheikh Mohammed can face the death penalty if he were to plead guilty before a military commission.

Holder proposed last year trying Mohammed and four alleged accomplices in civilian courts in New York City. But that idea generated so much controversy that it's all but been abandoned.

He told CBS' "Face the Nation" that it's possible to impose the death penalty in a civilian setting for someone who pleads guilty. But he says there's far less legal certainty about that possibility in a military setting.

Since January, Holder has said that all options are on the table about where to try Mohammed and the four other terrorist suspects. That includes the possibility of having them go before a military commission in Guantanamo Bay, where they are now held.

Mohammed, who was captured in Pakistan in 2003, has proclaimed his involvement in the Sept. 11 plot and has said he wants to plead guilty and be executed, achieving what he views as martyrdom.

Holder said the Obama administration is working through issues about a site for the proceedings, taking into ac-

count the need for Congress to approve funding and trying to address concerns expressed by local officials.

"As soon as we can" resolve those issues, "we will make a decision as to where that trial will occur," Holder said.

He said "the politicization of this issue, when we're dealing with ultimate national security issues, is something that disturbs me a great deal."

The attorney general said it is his hope that Congress provides money to move Guantanamo detainees to a new location in Thomson, Ill., where an underused state prison now exists.



Holder

Obama spokesman says Democrats could lose House

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama's party could lose its House majority in this fall's elections, his spokesman said Sunday, perhaps trying to jolt Democratic voters with the specter of GOP lawmakers rolling back White House policies.

"I think there's no doubt there are enough seats in play that could cause Republicans to gain control. There's no doubt about that," press secretary Robert Gibbs told NBC's "Meet the Press."

Democrats now hold a 255-178 edge in the House, with two vacancies in the 435-member chamber. Anywhere from

40 to perhaps 60 House seats could be competitive by the fall. Republicans would need to take back about 40 seats to slip into the majority, placing the current GOP leader, Ohio Rep. John Boehner, in line to replace Rep. Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., as speaker.

Those House Democrats who won election for the first time in 2008 in conservative leaning districts as part of the Obama wave are particularly vulnerable this fall, given that the president is not on the ballot.

Gibbs said retaining House control would depend on strong campaigns by

Democrats. "I think we have to take the issues to them," he said, adding that the primary argument would be how Republicans would govern as the majority party.

His remarks could be intended to light a fire under Democrats who are dispirited after about 18 months of Obama's presidency and motivate them to work hard to maintain their majorities in both the House and Senate. The party in power typically loses seats in the first midterm elections under a president, and Democrats are defending a slew of districts they picked up in 2006 and 2008.

Asia

Japan ruling party handed big defeat over tax plan

TOKYO (AP)—Japanese voters handed a stinging electoral defeat to the ruling party Sunday, exit polls showed, rejecting a proposal to increase taxes and handicapping a fledgling government struggling to keep the world's second-largest economy from financial meltdown.

With public spending at more than double its GDP, Japan is trying to manage its ballooning debt while also addressing high unemployment and stagnant growth. Prime Minister Naoto Kan has warned the country could face a Greek-style meltdown if it does not get its finances in order—possibly by raising the sales tax.

But projected losses in elec-

tions for the upper house of parliament indicate voters have rejected his solution, and will make it difficult for his government to effectively revive the economy.

The progressive Democratic Party of Japan was on it was to losing its slim majority—a stark contrast to the landslide victory it scored last August that ended a pro-Washington, conservative party's nearly 50-year grip on power.

Official results were not expected until Monday, but exit polls conducted by Japan's public broadcaster and all major TV networks projected the Democrats would end up with 106 to 110 seats in the 242-member chamber.

The election won't directly affect the Democrats' grip on power because they control the more powerful lower house of parliament. But it does raise the serious prospect of gridlock.

"It's bad news for Kan and the party, and its really bad news for the nation because it means there isn't going to be resolute action on all the festering problems facing the government," said Jeff Kingston, director of Asian studies at Temple University in Japan. "And that's got global repercussions."

Japan is deeply invested in worldwide markets, and slow growth here can have a significant impact on the global economy.

US senator: Pakistan must take on Haqqani network

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—A senior U.S. senator urged Pakistan on Sunday to crack down on the al-Qaida-linked Haqqani insurgent network, which operates on both sides of the country's border with Afghanistan.

Sen. Carl Levin, chairman of the Armed Services Committee, said he does not think the Haqqani network will ever make peace and he vowed to push to include the group on the U.S. terrorist blacklist.

The senator praised Pakistan for its help in fighting terrorism and for taking on other

militants such as the Pakistan Taliban, but he said the country's reluctance to push into the North Waziristan area run by the Haqqanis is hurting the war effort in Afghanistan.

"They are not following through and have not followed through by going after one of the truly great threats that face us here in Afghanistan, which is the coming into Afghanistan from Pakistan of Haqqani fighters," the Democrat from Michigan told reporters in Kabul at the end of his two-day visit.

The Haqqani network,

which mainly focuses on attacking targets in Afghanistan, is suspected of maintaining ties to Pakistan's powerful military intelligence agency.

The Pakistani government has denied news reports that it has reached out to the Haqqani network to secure its participation in talks with the Afghan government.

Levin was also recently in Islamabad meeting with Pakistani Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani, who said in a statement later that his government was doing its utmost to combat militance.

Soldiers take over where Afghan gov't fears to go

CHARBAGH, Afghanistan (AP)—The American soldiers climb over walls, jump ditches and scan the dirt for trip wires in an hourlong hike, all to meet with one man: the new head of a mosque in a tiny village in a southern Afghan river valley. They hope to persuade him to support the Afghan government.

They have a tough sell. The mullah, Bas Mohammad, says residents in Charbagh never see government representatives—not doctors, teachers or agriculture workers—even though the village sits on the edge of the south's largest city, Kandahar.

In areas like these, where

government authorities rarely venture, patrolling NATO troops are not just a security force: They are also envoys of the Afghan government.

The Taliban clearly have a presence in Charbagh. The road between the village and an American outpost is so littered with homemade bombs that soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment avoid it altogether, making what should be a 300-yard (-meter) walk last an hour. Mohammad's predecessor was run off by the militants, and the new mullah, a month into his job, has already

been warned to leave.

The violence isolates Charbagh, and many other areas around Kandahar, and often soldiers are the only ones willing to risk the journey.

But NATO and Afghan forces aren't planning a major offensive to rout the militants around Kandahar city, as they did in the southern town of Marjah this past winter. Commanders have said that instead they're taking a softer approach in the area—known as "Operation Hamkari," which means cooperation—squeezing the Taliban by strengthening government services.

World

Bombs strike World Cup watchers in Uganda, kill 64

KAMPALA, Uganda (AP)—In simultaneous bombings bearing the hallmarks of international terrorists, two explosions ripped through crowds watching the World Cup final in two places in Uganda's capital late Sunday, killing 64 people, police said. One

American was killed and several were wounded.

The deadliest attack occurred at a rugby club as people watched the game between Spain and the Netherlands on a large-screen TV outdoors. The second blast took place at an Ethiopian restaurant, where

at least three Americans were wounded.

One American was killed in the blasts, said Joann Lockard, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Embassy in Kampala.

Kampala's police chief said he believed Somalia's most feared militant group, al-Shabab, could be responsible for the attack. Al-Shabab is known to have links with al-Qaida, and it counts militant veterans from the Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan conflicts among its ranks.

A head and legs were found at the rugby club, suggesting a suicide bomber may have been to blame, an AP reporter at the scene said.

At least three Americans—part of a church group from Pennsylvania—were wounded at the Ethiopian restaurant. One was Kris Sledge, 18, of Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania.



A man attends a injured women , Sunday, July 11, 2010, after a bomb went off in a restaurant in Kampala's Kabalagala district, named Ethiopian Village.

775 coffins: Bosnia marks 1995 Srebrenica massacre

SREBRENICA, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP)—Hoisting hundreds of coffins aloft, a line of weeping relatives stretched for at least a mile (1.6 kilometers) Sunday as they honored Srebrenica massacre victims on the 15th anniversary of the worst atrocity in Europe since World War II.

A whole hillside in the eastern Bosnian town was dug out with graves, waiting for 775 coffins covered in green cloths to be laid to rest at the biggest Srebrenica funeral so far.

Still, that was less than a tenth of the total number of

Muslim men and boys executed after Serb forces overran the U.N.-protected town on July 11, 1995, during the 1992-1995 Bosnian war.

"I grew up without a father and I don't even remember him," said 16-year-old Hajro Ibrahimovic.

When the procession reached the hill, some 60,000 people splintered into rivulets as relatives sought the exact grave for their loved ones. The sound of dirt pounding against the coffins' wooden lids echoed over the valley, as two announcers, one male

and one female, solemnly read out the names of the victims being buried.

That took 64 minutes.

On that fateful day in 1995, some 30,000 Bosnian Muslims had flocked to the U.N. military base in the town's suburb of Potocari for refuge. But when Serb forces came, they forced outnumbered Dutch peacekeepers to open the gates. The Serbs then separated out the Muslim men and boys, putting them on trucks and carting them away, the vast majority never to be seen again. The Dutch peacekeepers lived.

WORLD BRIEFS

Brazil: Air France jet takes off after bomb scare

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—An Air France passenger jet resumed its flight from Rio to Paris after a bomb scare triggered an emergency landing in northeastern Brazil. No explosive was found on board. The delay in the plane's departure from the northeastern city of Recife was necessary because regulations require that the crew receive a certain amount of rest, an Air France spokesman in Brazil told The Associated Press by telephone Sunday. He spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to discuss the matter. Solange Argenta, a spokeswoman with the Brazilian government's airport authority, Infraero, said Sunday the jet was allowed to take off for Paris at 9:52 p.m. (8:52 EDT; 0052 GMT) after authorities inspected the plane and its luggage.

Iran halts stoning of woman 'for time being'

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—The controversial death sentence by stoning for an Iranian woman convicted of adultery will not be implemented for now, said a judicial official on Sunday. The world outcry over the death sentence has become the latest issue in Iran's fraught relationship with the international community. Malek Ajdar Sharifi, the top judicial official in the province where the mother of two was convicted, told the Irani-

an state news agency that her crimes were "various and very serious" and not limited to adultery, but that the sentence "will not be implemented for the time being." He added Sakineh Mohammadi Ashtiani's stoning would still take place if the judiciary wanted, despite the "propaganda" by the West. The United States, Britain and international human rights groups have all urged Tehran not to carry out the sentence.

Hundreds rescued from overheated trains in Germany

BERLIN (AP)—A grueling heat wave shut down the air conditioning in three high-tech trains in Germany, leaving dozens of passengers near collapse trapped in temperatures of up to 50 degrees Celsius (122 degrees Fahrenheit), authorities said Sunday. At least 52 people needed medical treatment and about 1,000 people had to switch trains, the national railway system, Deutsche Bahn, said. All three modern ICE trains—whose windows do not open—were headed west from Berlin on Saturday, Deutsche Bahn spokesman Juergen Kornmann said. While two lost their air conditioning fairly close to a station and could be emptied quickly, a third heated up some distance before reaching the city of Bielefeld. Kornmann said eight people suffering from heat exhaustion needed to be hospitalized in Bielefeld and another 44 needed medical treatment.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Taiwan president promotes closer China ties

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—Taiwan's president urged his Chinese counterpart to work toward improving historically testy ties following the signing of a landmark trade deal. Ma Ying-jeou—who has sought to build better relations with the mainland since taking office in May 2008—said this was an opportunity for the two sides to end decades of mistrust and search for common ground. Taiwan and China signed a broad trade pact last month. The deal, commonly known as Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement, will end tariffs on hundreds of products traded across the Taiwan Strait. It should boost bilateral trade already totaling about \$110 billion a year: some \$80 billion in goods flowing to China, and \$30 billion to Taiwan.

Curfew lifts in most of Kashmir, but strike called

SRINAGAR, India (AP)—A rigid curfew was lifted from most of Kashmir on Sunday, but shops and businesses remained shut after separatists called for a strike to protest Indian rule in the Himalayan region. Curfew-like restrictions were imposed in some areas of Srinagar, the main city in Indian Kashmir, and in two southern towns following clashes late Saturday between anti-India protesters and government forces, a police officer said Sunday, speaking on condition of anonymity as he was not authorized to speak to the media. The clampdown in Kashmir comes after street protests and clashes surged in the disputed region, and at least 15 people died over the past four weeks in shootings blamed on police and paramilitary soldiers.

Focus

In a political about-face, a South Korean commission investigating a century of human rights abuses has ruled that the U.S. military's large-scale killing of refugees during the Korean War, in case after case, arose out of military necessity.

Shutting down the inquiry into South Korea's hidden history, the commission also will leave unexplored scores of suspected mass graves believed to hold remains of tens of thousands of South Korean political detainees summarily executed by their own government early in the 1950-53 war, sometimes as U.S. officers watched.

The four-year-old Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Korea probed more deeply than any previous inquiry into the country's bloody past. But a shift to conservative national leadership changed the panel's political makeup this year and dampened its investigative zeal.

The families of 1950's victims wanted the work continued.

"The truth about all these past incidents must be revealed, so this national tragedy won't be repeated," said Yang Won-jin, 82, whose father was believed shot and dumped into a mass grave 60 years ago.

But the commission's new president said its work must end.

"Even if we investigated more, there's not much more to be revealed," said Lee Young-jo, a political science professor who took charge last December.

The commission was established in December 2005 under the late liberal President Roh Moo-hyun to "reconcile the past for the sake of national unity." It had a broad mandate to expose human rights abuses from Korea's pre-1945 Japanese colonial period through South Korea's military dictatorships into the 1980s.

The most shocking disclosures emerged from the war that began when communist North Korea invaded the south on June 25, 1950, to try to reunify the peninsula, divided into U.S.- and Soviet-occupied zones in 1945.

The commission was the first government authority to publicly confirm what long had only been whispered: The U.S.-allied South Korean military and police carried out a vast secretive slaughter of political detainees in mid-1950, to keep southern sympathizers from supporting the northerners. Up to 200,000 were killed, historians believe.

Hundreds of petitions to the commission told another story as well, of more than 200 incidents in which the U.S. military, warned about potential North Korean infiltrators in refugee groups, was said to have indiscriminately killed large numbers of innocent South Korean civilians in 1950-51.

Declassified U.S. documents uncovered over the past decade do, indeed, show commanders issuing blanket orders to shoot civilians during that period. In 2007-2009 the commission verified several such U.S. attacks, including the napalm-bombing of a cave jammed with refugees in eastern South Korea, which survivors said killed 360 people, and an air attack that killed 197 refugees gathered in a field in the far south.

The liberal-led commission, with no power to award reparations, recommended Seoul negotiate with the U.S. for compensation for survivors of what it agreed were indiscriminate attacks. But the government of President Lee Myung-bak, elected in December 2007, has taken no action.

Lee's Grand National Party had warned during his election campaign

that the truth panel's work could damage the U.S.-South Korean alliance.

Late last year, expiring terms on the 15-member commission enabled the Lee government to appoint more sympathetic commissioners, who opted not to extend the body's life by two years and instead to shut it down on June 30. Lee, the new panel chief, withdrew from distribution a 2009 English-language report on commission findings.

The commissioners also toughened the criteria for faulting U.S. wartime

southern South Korea, many miles from advancing North Korean troops.

■ A U.S. Navy destroyer's shelling of a refugee beach encampment near the southeastern city of Pohang on Sept. 1, 1950, in which survivors say 100 to 200 people were killed. A shipboard document shows the crew reluctantly fired on the civilians at U.S. Army direction.

Such incidents fit a pattern of indiscriminate U.S. attacks on South Korean civilians evident in declassified

gees. That's a war crime. They cannot just cover it up," said Lee Won-woo, who was 2 years old when his parents and older sister were killed with 70 other refugees attacked by U.S. aircraft near Kyongju, behind U.S. lines in the south, on Aug. 14, 1950.

It was among the cases in which the truth commission last year called for U.S. compensation.

"It's regrettable the United States seems indifferent to these incidents," said Oh Won-rok, head of a national

estimating conservatively," he said.

Korean War historian Park Myung-lim, methodically reviewing prison records, said he believes perhaps 200,000 were slaughtered in mid-1950 alone.

The commission also confirmed that North Korean occupation forces and southern leftists executed southern rightists, including police and other officials, though in lower numbers than in the South Korean government killings.

In 2007-2009, the commission oversaw excavations at 13 suspected mass graves and exhumed some 2,000 sets of remains of victims of the South Korean government executions. But about 140 other sites remain unexplored.

"Thousands are still buried in the Daejeon area. This is really heartbreaking for the victims' families," said Kim Jong-hyun, head of the bereaved families group in that central city, where up to 7,000 people were slaughtered in assembly-line executions in July 1950 and dumped into pits stretching for a mile down a valley.

Investigations and exhumations should continue, family representatives said.

"The government must establish a foundation to investigate, to restore the honor of the victims and to make compensation," said Oh, the survivors' national chairman.

Although the commission was empowered to establish an institute to assist future research, no action was taken. Meanwhile, the National Assembly's failure to enact a compensation law led petitioners to sue the government, so far without success.

The U.S. government has investigated only the No Gun Ri refugee case, acknowledging in 2001 the killing there of an "unknown number," but rejecting survivors' demands for an apology and compensation.

At the U.S. Embassy here, spokesman Aaron Tarver said in 2008 it was not monitoring the commission's work. He recently indicated the embassy still took no active interest in the findings, saying only, "We welcome the efforts of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission to investigate abuses of human rights and efforts to correct any possible inaccuracy in the historical record."

"There's less and less of a possibility the U.S. will look into its past wrongdoings in the Korean War," said Ahn Byung-ook, the investigatory commission's former president.

Lee, his successor, suggested that "some reconciliatory gestures or actions might be desirable by the United States."

Survivors have never reconciled themselves to what happened to their loved ones a half-century ago.

Many survivors, fatherless or orphaned, were reared in poverty and, because of "leftist" family links, denied good educations and jobs by the authoritarian regimes that ruled South Korea into the late 1980s.

"I stayed away from my hometown. I've lived in hiding for a long time," said the elderly Yang.

When she was a teenager, Chung Hae-yeol's father and mother were executed separately, months apart, as alleged collaborators. "The remains of my parents have never been found," she said.

Her face stricken, her hands nervously fingering a paper cup, Chung went on:

"I am 77, and I've lived to this age crying. I dream of my parents and I wake up crying. I miss them so. But I want to emphasize: This is not just a personal matter for me, but a matter of our national history." (AP)



In this July 10, 1950 file photo, South Korean refugees are shown fleeing Taejeon, South Korea, ahead of advancing North Korean troops early in the Korean War.

AP

Korea bloodbath probe ends; US escapes much blame

By CHARLES J. HANLEY and HYUNG-JIN KIM
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITERS

actions, demanding documentary proof U.S. forces in each case knew they were killing civilians, commission investigators told The Associated Press, speaking on condition of anonymity because of their sensitive position.

In a rush of final decisions June 29-30, the commission found no serious U.S. wrongdoing in the remaining cases of civilian killings, attributing them to military necessity.

With military operations nearby, "collateral damage may be inevitable," commission President Lee told the AP, using the U.S. military's euphemism for civilian casualties.

"In many cases, we did not have documented evidence enough to clear the fog of doubts," he said.

In a small number of cases, a commission majority found "low levels of unlawfulness" by the U.S., Lee said, but the panel did not recommend seeking compensation.

Those cases included:

■ A U.S. air attack on a refugee ship docked at the far-southern port of Yeosu on Aug. 3, 1950, in which witnesses say hundreds were killed.

■ The killing of some 300 civilians on July 11-12, 1950, by U.S. bombers attacking the Iri railway station in

wartime files uncovered in archival research by the AP and other journalists and historians.

In 1999 the AP confirmed the U.S. killing of refugees at the South Korean hamlet of No Gun Ri in July 1950, in which survivors estimate 400 died, mostly women and children. That report led witnesses to come forward with accounts of other large-scale U.S. killings.

The U.S. archives show clear proof of intent, including 1950 communications from the U.S. ambassador in South Korea and a top Air Force officer saying U.S. forces, to guard against infiltrators, had adopted a policy of shooting refugees approaching their lines, and a series of orders from U.S. commanders to fire on all civilians. Refugees are "fair game," said the 1st Cavalry Division's Maj. Gen. Hobart R. Gay.

In interviews with journalists and a Pentagon team that investigated No Gun Ri, Army and Air Force veterans also attested to indiscriminate killings.

Pilots who strafed refugee columns on South Korea's roads had been told to attack "people in white," the garb of Korean peasants, because they might harbor infiltrators.

"Those U.S. warplanes attacked us even though they knew we were refu-

association of 80 survivors' groups.

It's more difficult to assess the U.S. role in an even greater wave of killings, the mass political executions of mid-1950 carried out by President Syngman Rhee's government.

Family survivors hold the U.S. partly responsible, since the South Korean military executioners were under overall U.S. command, and U.S. officers were sometimes present, even photographing the grisly events.

Witnesses say that in the weeks after North Korea invaded in mid-1950, southern authorities emptied the prisons of suspected leftists, lined them up and shot them in the head, dumping the bodies into hastily dug trenches, abandoned mines or the sea. Few had ever faced trial.

Last November, after investigating petitions from surviving relatives, the commission announced it had verified and identified 4,934 execution victims.

But historian Kim Dong-choon, the former commissioner who led that investigation, estimates at least 60,000 to 110,000 died, and similar numbers were summarily executed when northern troops were driven from South Korea later in 1950 and alleged southern collaborators were rounded up. "I am

Overdrive

In attempts to sell the redesigned 2011 Sienna minivan, Toyota refers to it in advertising as the “swagger wagon.”

Really?

Look, it's a minivan. It proudly proclaims what you've accomplished: You've gone forth, you've multiplied, and now you need space for the whole family.

It's not hip or trendy—but there's nothing wrong with that.

If you equate value with sheer size, the Toyota delivers. It looks and feels supersized, as if designed at the warehouse club. The new Sienna's wheelbase remains unchanged from the 2010 model, while overall length is down by an inch. But the new Sienna is slightly wider this year, making it a tight fit through most garage doors and giving it a massive feel.

Like others of its ilk, the Sienna can have three rows of seats. The third folds flat into the floor; the second doesn't, although its seats can be removed. The test vehicle came with second-row captain chairs that slide forward 23 inches to afford more legroom to third-row passengers. Nice.

The test vehicle's second row reclined like a La-Z-Boy, a nifty feature, but don't expect to recline fully. Also, there's a lack of foot space once the seats are reclined, causing passengers' brogans to blemish the back of the front seat.

Here are some other features drivers and families will appreciate:

- The front-seat center console slides rearward for access by second-row passengers.

- Toyota's rear-seat dual view entertainment center uses side-by-side displays for widescreen viewing.

- Standard safety gear includes anti-lock brakes, electronic brake-force distribution, brake assist, stability control, traction control and seven air-bags.

Sienna has little swagger, but lots of room

By LARRY PRINTZ
THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT

The 2011 Toyota Sienna. True, there's no disguising a minivan as anything else, but if you have to drive a vehicle with such an inescapable social stigma, you might as well do it in one that looks good.

MCT



- Auxiliary audio jack and USB port with iPod connectivity.

- Hedonists will love the voice-activated DVD player, leather seating, dual power moon roofs and a rear backup camera.

How many of these features your Sienna gets depends on which trim level you buy: Base, LE, SE, XLE or Limited. That decision also makes a difference under the hood.

All models are available with a 266-horsepower, 3.5-liter V6, while only base and LE models can be had with the 187-horsepower, 2.7-liter, four-cylinder engine. Both mills mate to an electronically controlled six-speed automatic transmission. Front-wheel drive is standard; all-wheel drive is available with the V6 on the LE, as

NUTS & BOLTS

What we say: A refined family hauler

Pro: Quiet and comfortable

Con: Feels mammoth

Stats:

Engine: 3.5-liter DOHC V6

Wheelbase: 119.3 inches

Length: 200.2 inches

Weight: 4,490 pounds

Cargo space: 39.1-87.1 cubic feet

Towing capacity: 3,500 pounds

EPA rating (city/highway): 16/22 mpg

Fuel consumption: 21 mpg

Fuel type: Regular unleaded

Base price: \$34,515

As tested: \$38,661

well as XLE and Limited models.

Considering this vehicle's load ca-

capacity, the V6 makes more sense. If you think the four will save a lot on fuel, guess again. The EPA rates the front-wheel-drive V6 Sienna at 18 mpg city/24 mpg highway. The four-cylinder model is rated at 19 city, 26 highway; that's not much difference, considering the four has 79 fewer ponies to play with.

You'll find the Sienna is a typical Toyota when putting the pedal to the metal. There's sufficient power, delivered with the requisite amount of refinement. The driving experience is quiet and fairly serene, although there is some road and tire noise. Steering is fairly numb and light. There's some body lean during cornering, and you'll know when you reach this van's handling limits.

But the Sienna isn't about the best cornering results on a skid pad; it's about safety and comfort. This the Sienna delivers in spades.

You might not feel as happy about the cabin's ambience. No matter which trim level, you'll find the cabin is awash in cheap, hard plastic. Even on upper trim levels, pieces that you'd expect to be padded—such as the instrument panel—are firm and unyielding. The luxurious feel of the 2010 Sienna has been decimated; however, Toyota deserves credit for graining the plastic with an interesting texture.

Still, its comfort, carrying capacity and Toyota's reputation for reliability make up for it.

But it's not hip unless—as the '80s hit song goes—it's hip to be square. Then it is, indeed, the swagger wagon.

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Old tires may cause shudder during braking

QUESTION: When I'm braking normally, the steering wheel on my 2006 Toyota Corolla with 31,000 miles starts to shudder. There is no vibration in the brake pedal, and there is no pulling to either side. The car stops normally. I notice it when the afternoon temps started to climb, but not in the cooler mornings. What could the problem be?

ANSWER: There are several potential explanations. A sticking brake caliper slider or piston can cause the friction material to overheat, leading to inconsistent braking. Look for a bluish discoloration on the rotor surface. Worn, loose or damaged steering components such as a tie-rod end, rack or rack mounts can cause this shuddering as well.

And don't forget the tires. Your five-year-old tires with 31,000 miles on them may have developed an internal belt frac-

ture or shift, or some type of strange wear pattern. Rotate the front tires to the rear to see if it affects the shudder.

■ ■ ■

Q: I have a question about using the emergency brake. My friend told me to use it when parked facing uphill or downhill to protect the transmission, but I use it all the time. What is your advice?

A: Because the front brakes provide most vehicles' braking power and parking brakes typically operate on the rear wheels, I tend to refer to this auxiliary system as the “parking” brake, not the “emergency” brake.

In an automatic transmission, the parking “pawl,” or finger, mechanically engages into a notch to physically lock the transmission and prevent the vehicle from moving. When parked on an incline, it can be difficult to disengage when “leveraged” by the weight of the vehicle. So, when parking on a

hill, hold the foot brake, shift into park, then apply the parking brake before releasing the foot brake. This prevents the weight of the vehicle from “leaning” on the parking pawl and makes it much easier to shift the transmission out of park when you're ready to drive again. And obviously, the parking brake provides a backup system to prevent the vehicle from moving while parked on an incline.

My advice on the use of the parking brake is this: Either engage the parking brake every time you park the vehicle, or don't use it at all. Road salt, dust and dirt can cause the parking brake cables to stick if the system is not used regularly. And a stuck parking brake will make itself known by mechanical drag as you drive, followed shortly by a nasty bitter smell of overheated brake material.

■ ■ ■

Q: My '99 Pontiac Bonneville's transmission shifts

perfectly during first 10 minutes of driving. After warming up, it shifts with a slight pause and a mild thud sound but without any slippage. The dealership test-drove it after the 100,000-mile service and said it shifted normally. The transmission was serviced at 50,000 and 100,000 miles. Is transmission fluid viscosity a possible cause?

A: Check for fault codes to see if the transmission has been operating in the “limp” mode, which is designed to protect the transmission from slipping. This could be caused by low hydraulic pressure, internal fluid leaks in the valve body, shift solenoids or accumulators, or even an engine problem such as low vacuum or a faulty throttle position sensor. Before spending big bucks on this issue, try adding half a can of Trans-Tune to the transmission fluid.

■ ■ ■

Q: I've got a 2003 Nissan

Murano with 97,000 miles. When I drive slowly, like browsing garage sales, it gets balky and hesitant. The dealer found no codes in the computer, and they changed two air hoses and clamps. No help.

A: Did the dealer also install an updated air intake duct, according to Nissan recall R0902 in July 2009? Deterioration of this duct can cause an erratic idle.

■ ■ ■

Q: I've got a 2000 Buick LeSabre with 59,000 miles that I purchased new. During the past six months, the check-engine light comes on and the dashboard message center tells me the gas cap is loose. This has happened more than 10 times. I've had the check-engine light cleared several times and I am certain the gas cap is on tight. Despite installing a new gas cap, the check-engine light still comes on.

The garage assures me all the emissions components are

working properly and blames the problem on the car being rear-ended a year ago and suffering major damage. What can I do to correct this?

A: The garage could well be correct. Residual damage to any of the evaporative emission components could be the problem. Have the shop identify the specific DTC fault code that is triggering the light. The self-diagnostic capabilities of the evap system can pinpoint vacuum leaks or problems with the fuel tank pressure sensor, vent valve solenoid, purge valve solenoid or charcoal canister.

Paul Brand, author of How to Repair Your Car, is an automotive troubleshooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver. Readers may write to him at: Star Tribune, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488 or via e-mail at paul.brand@startribune.com. Please explain the problem in detail and include a daytime phone number. It isn't always possible to send a personal reply.

Life & Style

5 most memorable movie creatures

In this June 22, 2010 photo, American R&B singer-songwriter Kelis poses for a portrait at Interscope Records in Santa Monica, Calif.

AP



Kelis wants to start a dance revolution with album

By NATALIE ROTMAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Kelis wants to make you sweat.

The 30-year-old singer has had club hits before, but with her latest CD, "Flesh Tone," she's zeroing in on the clubs, hoping to get people moving on the dance floor. Even though it seems like the pop world is engulfed in disco fever, Kelis says people are too cool to groove.

"No one is sweating, no one is dancing," she said. "People don't ever dance anymore."

"Flesh Tone" comes after a turbulent period in her life. She split from rapper Nas, the father of her infant son Knight, and the former couple engaged in a high-profile battle over child support. She also tangled with the animal rights group PETA after she was photographed in fur.

The Harlem native talked about her music, raising her son and her thoughts on People for Ethical Treatment of Animals during a recent interview.

The Associated Press: How did you go from creating R&B hits like "Milkshake" to an all-dance album?

Kelis: I felt like everything started to go in the same direction. I hate to toot my horn, but if you look at where music was as far females and what's Top 40 radio and whatever, where it was before "Milkshake," versus after, I mean you kind of have to be retarded to deny that it literally changed female vocalists. ... So for me, it was just about wanting to party again.

AP: It was reported you got a hefty divorce settlement from your ex-husband.

Kelis: No matter what it is that I say, or don't say, people are going to make up their opinion. I have not said anything about my personal life at all. ... At the end of the day it has no bearing on me or my kid. Maybe you want to think about that. You are blogging about my life that I am actually living.

AP: Knight is going to grow up with two public figures as parents. What do you want people to know about Nas as a father?

Kelis: My kid is the center of my world. I don't leave him ever. I take him with me everywhere. I was married. It didn't work out. The most amazing thing came out of it. I am good with that. ... He (Knight) will never read anywhere that I said anything negative about his father. It doesn't matter whether it's true or not. Because at the end of the day he needs to know he did come from love.

AP: If PETA would have came and said, "Look you have strong fashion cred. ... Can you help us?" Would you have thought about it?

Kelis: No. Here is the thing. The reason I responded the way I responded is because of the way they came at me, absolutely. I am not going to be hypocritical, though. The reality is, I get in trouble for stuff I say all the time because I am honest. The reality is there are a lot of causes I do have. This is not one of them. I am not saying like I don't care about animals and kill them all. That is retarded. It's ridiculous. I have two pets. My sister is in school to be a veterinarian. My (late) father was a vegetarian my entire life. That is not the case at all. I took my kid to the zoo the other day. The point is, I am not the one that is killing the animals.

By CHRISTY LEMIRE
AP MOVIE CRITIC

LOS ANGELES (AP)—It's an alien warrior that can turn invisible, bleeds glowing green and mercilessly stalks its human prey using heat-seeking vision, only to turn its victims into trophies.

But are the predators of "Predators" the most frightening—or even the most memorable—movie creatures ever conceived?

With last weekend's opening of the sequel to the 1987 sci-fi action thriller "Predator," here's a look at some other beings, both deadly and do-gooders, who've stood out on screen. And for the record, we're not talking about monsters like Dracula, the Mummy or even Godzilla. We're also not talking about Heidi Montag—she gets her own category.

■ Yoda

List him first, I will. He's so formidable for such a little guy, how can you do anything but place him at the top of the heap? (Yoda himself said it best: "Size matters not.") Besides, even if you didn't, he'd levitate up there using his prodigious mastery of the Force. Nine hundred years old when he dies in "Return of the Jedi," he's one of the most powerful Jedi masters in the "Star Wars" universe. Plus, as voiced by puppeteer Frank Oz, he's just too darn cute.

■ Gollum

Andy Serkis was so fantastically fiendish in his portrayal of the villainous "Lord of the Rings" hobbit, there was talk he should have received an Oscar nomination. A mix of human performance and digitized effects, Gollum often stole the show in the last two films of Peter Jackson's epic trilogy. Smeagol, the sweet side of this twisted, wiry creature, comes out from time to time. But it's the duplicitous, manipulative personality that takes over and craves his "precious," the ring.

■ Queen from "Aliens"

She lays eggs, scads of them, which will grow up to become charming little facehuggers and, eventually, chestbursters. She stands about 15 feet high, making her significantly taller than the regular warrior aliens, and she has two sets of arms. But the queen's also got a protective instinct, as any mom would have. Famously, this is what inspired her climactic showdown with Sigourney Weaver's Ripley in 1986's "Aliens," James Cameron's second film in the franchise. But the queen would also go on to do battle against this week's baddie in 2004's "Alien vs. Predator."



Yoda is so formidable for such a little guy, how can you do anything but place him at the top of the heap for most memorable movie creatures?

■ Creature From the Black Lagoon

He's kind of human and kind of amphibious, but mostly he just

needs a hug like the rest of us. Standing upright with his gills and his giant webbed hands, the dude in the suit wasn't all that

high-tech—this was 1954, after all—but the movie itself was in 3-D, which has unfortunately returned as the preferred format these days. The creature was such a physically demanding character, though, it took two actors to play him: one on land (Ben Chapman) and one in the water (Ricou Browning).

■ E.T.

Just you try to watch "E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial" without crying. It's pretty much impossible. Sure, you've seen this 1982 Steven Spielberg classic a million times, so you know the little alien is going to be just fine, that he'll phone home and end up back with his family again. But his face is so expressive with those enormous, inquisitive blue eyes, and watching him say good-bye to Elliott is so tough, he gets to you every time. Then that sweeping John Williams score kicks in and forget it—you're a puddle. Even though he's a creature, he connects deeply with our humanity.

Think of any other examples? Share them with AP Movie Critic Christy Lemire through Twitter: www.twitter.com/christylemire.

Message of Appreciation



We, the family of our beloved

Jennifer Lynn Duenas Sablan Torres

extend our sincere and most heartfelt appreciation to all our family and friends, far and near, who have joined us celebrate the new life of our mother, wife, sister, aunt and daughter. Your prayers, support, and words of condolences have helped ease our pain during our most difficult time of sorrow. With deepest gratitude to all the priests and clergies, recitors of the nightly rosaries. Our most profound thank you to all her doctors, nurses and staff in Houston, Texas that took very special care of her while she was still with us, and to all who assisted in one way or another. Un Dankulu na Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Thank You and God Bless to each and everyone of you!

The Family of the late
Jennifer Lynn Duenas Sablan Torres

'Despicable Me' tops weekend box office at \$60.1M

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Despicable Me" wasn't such a bad guy after all, it seems, opening at the top of the box office with an estimated \$60.1 million.

The first 3-D animated movie from Universal Pictures stars Steve Carell as the voice of Gru, a bumbling villain with plans to steal the moon—until three adorable orphan girls enter his life. Jason Segel, Russell Brand and Julie Andrews are among the star-studded voice cast.

Nikki Rocco, head of distribution for Universal, said Sunday that "Despicable Me" far exceeded the studio's expectations for opening weekend.

"Thirty (million) would have been a win for the studio—because it's a new creative idea, we really didn't know what we had, so we backed in saying \$30 (million)," said Rocco. "I would never have said \$50 million-plus."

Rocco believes a number of factors worked in the movie's favor, including jokes for the kids and more grown-up humor and a warmhearted story for adults. But the tiny, yellow

1. "Despicable Me," \$60.1 million.
2. "The Twilight Saga: Eclipse," \$33.35 million.
3. "Predators," \$25.3 million.
4. "Toy Story 3," \$22 million.
5. "The Last Airbender," \$17.15 million.
6. "Grown Ups," \$16.4 million.
7. "Knight and Day," \$7.85 million.
8. "The Karate Kid," \$5.7 million.
9. "The A-Team," \$1.8 million.
10. "Cyrus," \$1.4 million.

Minions—quirky, pill-shaped creatures who spout gibberish and help Gru carry out his dastardly plans—were appealing to both, and were a huge part of the film's marketing campaign.

The week's other new wide release, "Predators," grossed

\$25.3 million to open at No. 3. A sequel of sorts to the 1987 sci-fi cult classic "Predator," the 20th Century Fox film stars Adrien Brody and Laurence Fishburne as mercenaries being stalked by alien hunters in the jungle.

Robert Rodriguez ("Planet Terror," the "Spy Kids" movies) wrote an early version of the script in the 1990s, produced the film at his Texas compound and his name appears high on the credits—an association that proved fruitful, said Bert Livingston, a 20th Century Fox distribution executive.

"People wanted to see the film because Robert Rodriguez was attached to it, and he's the best at what he does, and we got our audience," Livingston said. "It was 70-percent male and they liked the film."

Meanwhile, last week's juggernaut, "The Twilight Saga:



In this film publicity image released by Universal Pictures, Gru, voiced by Steve Carell, background center, is shown in a scene the 3-D CGI feature, "Despicable Me", about a villain who meets his match in three little girls, foreground from left, Edith, voiced by Dana Gaier, Agnes, voiced by Elsie Fisher, and Margo, voiced by Miranda Cosgrove.

Eclipse," fell to second place with \$33.35 million. The third film in the wildly popular vampire franchise has now made \$237 million in its first 12 days. It's expected to surpass part two, "The Twilight Saga: New Moon," which grossed \$296.6 million when it came out last year.

"Twilight" dropped less than 50 percent—that's impressive to me," said Paul Dergarabedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com. "That's a really

strong hold for a movie that, in its first day, made \$68 million."

It's been a strong series of weeks at the box office, especially after a rough start to the summer with movies such as "Shrek Forever After" and "Sex and the City 2" not opening to expectations. Next weekend brings "Inception," Christopher Nolan's hugely anticipated first film since the blockbuster "The Dark Knight," which opened on the same weekend two years ago.

"You can't underestimate the importance of momentum in the marketplace," Dergarabedian said. "The Karate Kid," "Toy Story 3," "Eclipse" and now "Despicable Me"—we're on a roll and it feels more like the beginning of the summer than the middle of the summer."

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Final figures will be released Monday.

'Wonder Woman' actress beats barking dog charge

WASHINGTON (AP)—The actress who played Wonder Woman on television in the 1970s has deflected a charge that she allowed her dog's barking to disturb neighbors in an upscale Maryland community outside Washington.

A Montgomery County District Court judge found Lynda Carter Altman not guilty last week of the municipal infraction.

Neighbor Chrissellene Petropoulos says she was disturbed at all hours by barking from Alt-

man's Labrador retriever. Petropoulos said she tried calling and e-mailing Altman to ask her to take her dog inside, and eventually called animal services.

The acting Montgomery County attorney says his office took the issue to court after an animal services officer issued a barking dog citation based on Petropoulos' complaint. Altman's attorney the case was dismissed because there was insufficient evidence of wrongdoing.



In a Monday, Feb. 23, 2009 photo, Lynda Carter attends the "Defying Inequality" Broadway concert, a celebrity benefit for equal rights, in New York.

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

UK dealer cleared of theft of Shakespeare's plays

LONDON (AP)—A book dealer has been cleared of stealing a rare first edition of Shakespeare's plays, but was found guilty of handling stolen goods and removing stolen property from Britain. Raymond Scott had been accused of theft after the 1623 folio was stolen from Durham University in 1998. He was arrested after the volume was taken to the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington. Scott claimed he found the folio—which has been described as part of England's "cultural heritage"—in Cuba. At Newcastle Crown Court on Friday, Judge Richard Lowden remanded Scott in custody, warning "there will, in due time, be an inevitable substantial custodial sentence."

Celine Dion says her expected twins are boys

NEW YORK (AP)—Celine Dion says the twins she's expecting are boys. The superstar singer revealed the sex of the babies in a brief statement Friday on her website. Dion already has a son, Rene Charles, with her husband and manager, Rene Angelil. The 42-year-old singer had undergone several rounds of in-vitro fertilization to become pregnant again and has spoken openly about her difficulties having children. A representative for the singer was not immediately available to comment on the posting.

AP sources: Bill Clinton to lead wedding of NY rep

NEW YORK (AP)—Call him the officiator-in-

chief: Former President Bill Clinton will preside at the wedding of New York Rep. Anthony Weiner to a longtime aide of Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton. That's according to people familiar with the ceremony. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss it. Aides to Weiner and the former president declined to comment. The 45-year-old congressman and his 34-year-old fiancée, Huma Abedin, are to be married Saturday at the Oheka Castle in Huntington on Long Island. They have been dating for about two years and announced their engagement last summer. Weiner is Jewish. Abedin grew up in Saudi Arabia and is Muslim. The Clintons are in the midst of a busy wedding season. Their daughter, Chelsea, plans to tie the knot with investment banker Marc Mezvinsky in Rhinebeck, New York, this month.

Author K.P. Bath sentenced to prison

PORTLAND, Oregon (AP)—A federal judge has sentenced children's author K.P. Bath to six years in prison for possessing child pornography. In a statement Thursday, Assistant U.S. Attorney Gary Sussman said the 51-year-old author of "The Secret of Castle Cant" and "Escape from Castle Cant" had a large collection of still images and video clips. He also traded pornographic images with at least two out-of-state collectors. The Oregonian newspaper reports the Portland resident did not speak in the courtroom, but wrote a letter to the court complaining that government prosecutors exercised too much power. Bath had a book scheduled for release last fall. His publisher scrapped it when the allegations surfaced.

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NOW SHOWING



Despicable Me

Friday and Saturday 1:05 4:05 7:05 9:40
 Sun through Thurs 1:05 4:05 7:05

Steve Carell, Jason Segel
 Comedy, Children's/family • Rated PG

Synopsis

A man (voiced by Steve Carell) who's in the midst of making plans to steal the moon is sidetracked when he's put in charge of three orphans in this computer-generated 3-D animated film by directors Chris Renaud and Pierre Coffin. Jason Segel, Kristen Wiig, Will Arnett, Danny McBride, Russell Brand, and Julie Andrews also lend their voices to the Universal Pictures production.



Predators

Friday and Saturday 1:25 4:25 7:25 9:55
 Sun through Thurs 1:25 4:25 7:25

Adrien Brody, Alice Braga
 Action, Science fiction • Rated R

Synopsis

Maverick filmmaker Robert Rodriguez tackles producing duties for a revamp of the Predator film series with this 20th Century Fox/Troublemaker Studios production focusing on a human survival adventure set on the Predator's home planet. Kontröll's Nimród Antal directs from a script by Alex Litvak and Michael Finch, with Adrien Brody heading up an international cast filled out by Danny Trejo, Alice Braga, Tophir Grace, Oleg Taktarov, Mahershalalhashbaz Ali, and Louiz Osawa.



Twilight Saga: Eclipse

Friday and Saturday 1:30 4:30 7:30 10:00
 Sun through Thurs 1:30 4:30 7:30

Robert Pattinson, Kristen Stewart
 Fantasy • Rated PG 13

Synopsis

The third film in the Twilight series explores a love triangle between Bella (Kristen Stewart), Edward (Robert Pattinson), and Jacob (Taylor Lautner) as the werewolf pack and the Cullen clan join together to fight a new breed of vampires. Melissa Rosenberg provides the screenplay for the Summit Entertainment adaptation of Stephenie Meyer's best-selling novel, with director David Slade calling the shots behind the camera.



The Last Airbender

Friday and Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:15 9:45
 Sun through Thurs 1:15 4:15 7:15

Noah Ringer, Nicola Peltz
 Adventure, Family • Rated PG



Toy Story 3

Friday and Saturday 1:20 4:10 7:20 9:30
 Sun through Thurs 1:20 4:10 7:20

Tom Hanks, Tim Allen
 Fantasy, Children's, Family • Rated G



Grown Ups

Friday and Saturday 1:10 4:20 7:10 9:35
 Sun through Thurs 1:10 4:20 7:10

Adam Sandler, Kevin James
 Comedy • Rated PG 13



The Karate Kid

Friday and Saturday 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:50
 Sun through Thurs 1:00 4:00 7:00

Jackie Chan, Jaden Smith
 Drama • Rated PG

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Amber Riley to bring some 'Glee' to All-Star game

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP)—Amber Riley will bring her high school pep to the Major League Baseball All-Star game.

The "Glee" Starlet will sing a set of songs and the national anthem before Tuesday's edition of the annual midsummer classic held this year at Angel Stadium in Anaheim, Calif., baseball of-

ficials announced Sunday.

The 24-year-old Riley plays young diva Mercedes Jones on the recently Emmy-nominated "Glee," which chronicles the musical lives of a group of talented high school outcasts.

Both "Glee" and the All-Star game air on Fox-TV.

The Canadian Tenors will

perform the Canadian national anthem before Tuesday's game, and country-pop hit maker Colbie Caillat will sing God Bless America during the 7th inning stretch.

In this May 17, 2010 file photo, Amber Riley attends the FOX Up-front presentation in New York. AP



LeBron's 'Decision' watched by nearly 10M people



NEW YORK (AP)—The Nielsen Co. estimates that 9.95 million people watched LeBron James announce on ESPN that he's leaving Cleveland to play for the Miami Heat, making it the third-most-watched program on cable television this year.

"The Decision" that aired Thursday night ranks behind the 12.3 million who watched the NFL Pro Bowl and 11.2 million who watched an episode of "ICar-

ly" on Nickelodeon in January.

The special was of particular interest in Cleveland, where an estimated one in four homes with televisions tuned in.

James' future can't yet compare to Kobe Bryant's present, however. More than 28 million people watched Bryant win his fifth championship last month in the seventh game of the NBA Finals between the L.A. Lakers and Boston Celtics.

Lebron James stretches as he exits his car outside the W Hotel in Miami Beach, Fla., Friday July 9, 2010. AP

Carrie Underwood marries hockey player Mike Fisher

ATLANTA (AP)—Grammy-winning country singer Carrie Underwood has married NHL player Mike Fisher at a resort in Georgia.

"Yes, Mike and Carrie are married," Underwood's publicist Jessie Schmidt said in an e-mail to The Associated Press early Sunday.

The wedding took place Saturday at the Reynolds Plantation resort in Greensboro, Ga.

Underwood, 27, rose to fame after winning the fourth season of "American Idol." Fisher, 30, is a forward for the Ottawa Senators. No details on where Underwood and Fisher will spend their honeymoon have been released.

Carrie Underwood and Mike Fisher arrives at the Grammy Awards in this Jan. 31, 2010 file photo taken in Los Angeles. AP



Carmelo Anthony, actress LaLa Vazquez wed in NYC

NEW YORK (AP)—Denver Nuggets star Carmelo Anthony and actress LaLa Vazquez have tied the knot in New York City. Michael Gagliardo, a publicist for Vazquez, confirms that the wedding took place Saturday night at the Manhattan restaurant Cipriani. He provided no details.

Us Magazine first reported the nuptials on its website.

The magazine says 30-year-old

Vazquez and 26-year-old Anthony were escorted down the aisle by their 3-year-old son, Kiyan.

Vazquez wore a Vera Wang gown and carried red and hot pink flowers. Kim Kardashian, Serena Williams, Spike Lee and LeBron James were among the roughly 300 guests.

Vazquez, a former MTV VJ, and Anthony, an All-Star forward, were engaged in 2004.

Free Buffett beach show draws crowd on oiled coast

GULF SHORES, Ala. (AP)—Tens of thousands of people sang and danced on a broad Alabama beach at a free Jimmy Buffett concert meant to help the Gulf Coast through the oil spill crisis.

The show at Gulf Shores, Ala., accomplished its goal of luring visitors. Parking lots were fuller than they had been in days outside of hotels, condominiums, restaurants and souvenir stores.

Alabama Gov. Bob Riley

says the state might use its \$15 million in tourism promotion money from BP to stage additional shows through the fall. The crowd included Florida Gov. Charlie Crist.

Organizers gave away 35,000 tickets, but an officials attendance count wasn't available.

The concert originally was scheduled for July 1 but had to be postponed because of heavy surf from Hurricane Alex.

Man schemes to relive his 'glory days' without wife

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: My husband started exercising, is now on a strict diet and listening to love songs from the '60s. He has never been interested in these things before.

I overheard him on the phone talking about going to his high school reunion this summer, 400 miles away. When I asked him why he hadn't mentioned it to me, he said it's because I'm not invited. I was shocked. Then he said he's going with three of his old "buddies." I asked if their wives were going and he said, "No, they're divorced, but have girlfriends."

My husband is now giving me the silent treatment. He has a history of keeping things from me, but never anything like this. This is his 50th reunion, and the first one he has ever wanted to go to. I'm sick about it. What do you make of all this?

HEARTSICK IN OREGON

DEAR HEARTSICK: I make of it that you don't trust your husband because he tries to sneak things past you and wasn't upfront about this from the beginning. If he had said he was planning to attend, and that he and three of his old buddies wanted to pretend they were teenagers again, you might have felt differently. Because he didn't, I can see why you would find the situation threatening.

Since you seem to have trouble communicating your feelings to each other, some sessions with a marriage counselor might help you reach a better understanding.

P.S. While he's gone, arrange to do something fun with some of your women friends. A girls' weekend might be a pleasant diversion, and at this point you need one.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I left my wife for a much younger woman two years ago. Despite what my ex-wife says, it was not a mid-life crisis. I was very unhappy with my wife and our marriage. Our divorce has been final for seven months—although I'm beginning to wonder if it will ever truly be "final."

My girlfriend, "Nicole," is anxious for us to be married and start building a life together. I'm still overwhelmed from how unbelievably painful the whole divorce process has been, and I can't begin to think about getting married again at the moment.

I have told Nicole that I'm not ready and I need some time. She says I'm "stringing her along," and even though she doesn't want to have kids, she still feels her clock is ticking for finding an acceptable mate. It has reached the point where Nicole says she is going to leave me if I don't commit to marrying her.

What is a reasonable time to expect someone to recover and be emotionally ready to remarry after an extremely bitter divorce? And what do you suggest?

STILL HEALING IN WASHINGTON

DEAR STILL HEALING: Some people are ready to remarry within months of a divorce. For others, the healing process can take years. I suggest you call Nicole's bluff. She is anxious because she is beginning to doubt that she'll get you to the altar—and the "biological clock" business she's handing you is ridiculous in light of the fact that she doesn't want children.

The feelings you are experiencing are normal after a bitter divorce. Please do not allow yourself to be stam-peded. When the time is right for you to remarry, you will know it without my telling you.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$12 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby - Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)



Carmelo Anthony and new bride LaLa pose for photographers after their wedding ceremony at Cipriani's, Saturday, July 10, 2010, in New York. AP

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

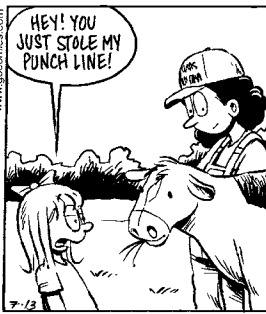


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 36 Crazy one 37 Vice 5 Calf's mama Burr 8 Cutting tools Georgia Peach 12 On 13 Lawyers' org. 41 Doctrine 42 Inter 43 Baseball commis-sioner 48 Coaster 49 Prior to 50 Vega's constellation 51 Church furniture 52 "CSI" evidence 53 Favor-able votes

DOWN 1 Chart 2 DDE's 3 Neither mate 4 Mainte-nance range 5 Army rank (Abbr.) 6 Japanese sash 7 Swaying from side to side 8 Complain 9 "— Lang Syne" 10 Somme-lier's sug-gestion 11 Hot tubs 16 Deviate off course 20 File crosser 21 Lost traction 22 Rip 23 Hindu royal 24 Mountain range 26 Pulsated 27 Papa pig 28 Really enjoying 29 Hoodlum 31 Unkempt one 34 Famed London insurers 35 To wit 37 Fool 38 Recipe meas. 39 Christ-mas 40 Rowing team 41 Concept 44 Coffee shop vessel 45 Caustic solution 46 George's brother 47 State of matter

Solution time: 21 mins.

Yesterdays answer 7-13

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Cam-eron Crowe, 53; Cheech Marin, 64; Harrison Ford, 68; Sir Patrick Stewart, 70

Happy Birthday: Put yourself out there this year. Don't be afraid to let others know what you have to offer. This can be a great year to make voca-tional changes. A move may not be what you want initially but, in the end, it can prove to pay off. Your numbers are 6, 13, 20, 29, 33, 40, 48

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Revisit ideas and prospects that crossed your path last year and you will discover a new approach with the potential to be successful. You should be able to find new means to make things work for you. Increased assets or greater earning potential look positive. ****

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): If you let someone else stick his or her nose into your business, you may be led astray or negatively influenced. Nurturing a relationship will benefit you in ways you can't imagine. You can become much closer to someone with whom you share responsibilities. **

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Do what feels right even if someone doesn't agree with your choices. Don't let a personal relationship cloud your vision about offering your help to others or making a move that will lead to a better professional future. ****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Your re-sponsibilities may seem like a burden but what you receive in the end will be gratifying. A job that has brought with it plenty of uncertainties will work out to your advantage

if you let things unfold naturally. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Expect all sorts of changes in your life. Travel will entice you and new acquaintances, hobbies and knowledge will catch your interest. Your emo-tional outlook will improve through the conver-sations you have with others. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Observation will be your greatest asset, allowing you the knowledge required to manipulate any situation you face. Money matters can im-prove with wise choices and, although not every-one will be happy with your decisions, put your bank book and peace of mind first. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): A partnership looks favorable. Don't base your decision on which is the easiest route. Change is upon you but you are in control to make the final decision. ****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You may feel pulled between the past, present and future. You have to let go in order to move forward. Keep an open mind and you will discover that something very positive can come out of the change. **

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You can alter your current financial situ-ation if you are smart about the deals you make and the people you get involved with. Let-ting someone influence where and what you do will be a stumbling block to the goals you want to accomplish. *****

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): In-vestments, real estate or working toward

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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your own enterprise will pay off. Love, contracts and legal matters will all play a major role in the long-term, financial decisions you make. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You have to make up your own mind but, before you do, make an honest assess-ment of where you are mentally, physically, emotionally and financially. If things aren't the way you want them to be, make the necessary changes even if it means major adjustments to your lifestyle. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Figure out ahead of time if you are capable of do-ing what's being asked of you or if you should consider taking a path more suited to your qualifications. There is a partnership or deal that you can make, however, it may come as a sur-prise that it isn't the one you expected. ***

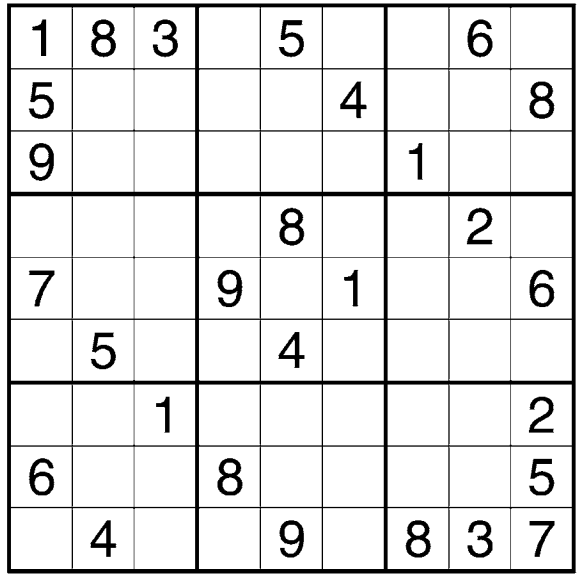
Birthday Baby: You are outgoing and aren't afraid to speak your mind. You are practical and patient and can influence others.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confi-dential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

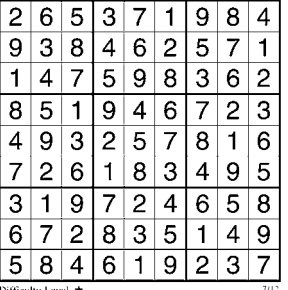
Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ★★ 7/13 ©2010 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizon-tally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

LENA HORNE (1917-2010) Solution: 10 letters

Y J Z A I G R O E G L I A G K
N A C I R E M A N S O U L R N
E M W A E T U B I U I G H O A
W A U D L G S L R R N N T V R
Y I E S A H F E B O H T G E F
O C D S I O O E H H O T F E L
R A N G C C R U L C J K O R R
K P A N A M A B N D R W L H I
M J D O O W Y L L O H O L Y G
O A O S O L C L S A U H I T N
V U R R Y D A L T I R S E H O
I B D Y D T B T S U Y W S M T
E S I R I A I S O K T E D D Y
S S E N O J N T S I V I T C A
A L B U M S N I W D E V O L H

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Activist, Albums, American, Blue, Broadway, Brooklyn, Cabin, Calhoun, Chorus, Cotton, Edna, Edwin, Follies, Frank, Gail, Georgia, Girl, Grove, Hatti, Hayton, Hollywood, Jamaica, John, Jones, Jordan, Lady, Latin, Louis, Love, Mary, Movies, Musicals, New York, Orchestra, Panama, Rhythm, Rise, Show, Singer, Sky, Songs, Soul, Teddy, Tour, Views, Words, Ziegfeld

Yesterday's Answer: Pageants

Treasury 7 Send check or money order for \$10.95 each plus \$3.25 postage and handling each (\$14.20 total each, U.S. funds only) for the first volume. \$1.50 psh for each additional volume. To Universal Uclick, Attn: Wonderword, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480 Order online at upuzzles.com.

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

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**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID
ITB10-DOC-123**

SUBMISSION DATE: AUGUST 9, 2010 TIME: 10:00 A.M.
"SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF ENERGY STAR WINDOW TINTING FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CENTER, TINIAN HEALTH CENTER AND ROTA HEALTH CENTER/ARRA FUND"

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

ONE **MANDATORY WALKTHROUGH**, WILL BE HELD ON:
JULY 21, 2010 STARTING AT 9:00 A.M. AT CHC, NAVY HILL, SAIPAN
THC, SAN JOSE, TINIAN WILL BE ON JULY 22, 2010 STARTING AT 10:30 A.M.
RHC, SONGSONG, ROTA WILL BE ON JULY 23, 2010 STARTING AT 11:00 A.M.

QUESTIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING AND ADDRESSED TO MR. CHRIS FRYLING, AIA, PROJECT MANAGER VIA E-MAIL TO cfryling@cnmiarra.net OR FAXED TO 1+(670) 864-3067 NO LATER THAN **AUGUST 02, 2010, CLOSE OF BUSINESS.**

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/S/ MICHAEL J. ADA
SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

/S/ THELMA B. INOS
DIRECTOR, ENERGY DIV.

/S/ MARTIN C. SABLAN
SECRETARY OF DPW

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Zoning Board will be held on Tuesday, July 20, 2010 at 6:00 PM, Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten DanDan Commercial Bldg., Saipan

A. Preliminary Matters

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Adoption of Agenda

4. Adoption of Minutes

5. Communications

6. Public Comments

B. Reports

1. Chairperson

2. Secretary

3. Treasurer

4. Acting Administrator

5. Committees

6. Legal Counsel

C. Permits/ Applications/ Rezones: review and decide.

1. Conditional Use application #2010-1466, Star 1 Corp (Star ATV Tracking), lot 1673-1-6, Kannat Tabla area for Amusement, Outdoor.

2. Conditional Use application #2010-1474 Triple J Saipan Inc. (Sandy Beach Homes) containing lots 008 H 26, 012 H 33, 012 H 34, 012 H 35 and 012 H 36, Chalan Kanoa Dist#4 area for Multifamily/ Apartments.

3. Rezone application #2010-0841, TR 22796 H-422, Kagman; From Rural to Mixed Commercial zoning district; proposed use - Vehicle Repair, General.

D. Old Business.

1. Update on Zoning Office Operations (Permit Processing, Enforcement, Junk Car Program)

E. New Business.

1. None

F. Executive (Closed) Session

G. Miscellaneous: Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting, Adjourn.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact Therese Ogumoro, Acting Zoning Administrator, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Herminia M. Fusco, Chair, Zoning Board

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$27
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:

- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ARMATECH

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LOST PASSPORT

NAME : YE, YIHAN
PASSPORT # : G34555919
DATE OF ISSUE : 08 JULY 2009
DATE OF EXPIRY : 07 JULY 2019
COUNTRY : CHINA

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF

MITSUKO MIYAZATO SCHICK,
Deceased.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 10-0008-CV

NOTICE OF HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT ON August 3, 2010, at 1:30 p.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard at the Guma Husticia, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, USA, the CNMI Superior Court will hear and rule upon Petitioner/Administrator Jeffrey Taylor's Petition for Final Distribution by the Administrator of the Estate of Mitsuko Miyazato Schick (deceased) A copy of all of the documents filed in support of this motion, including, but not limited to, the petition, declaration of Joaquin DLG. Torres, Last Will and Testament of Mitsuko Schick, and Inventory, are available in the court file or upon request from Mr. Torres at the Torres Brothers, LLC Law Office Building, located on Middle Road across the street from Sugar King Park. You may file any opposition you may have to such motion before the hearing date at a time and date as required by the Commonwealth Rules of Civil Procedure and Probate Procedure and appear, either personally or by legal representative, at the hearing.

Dated: July 12, 2010.

/s/ Joaquin DLG. Torres
JOAQUIN DLG. TORRES, F0257

WHATZIT Solution:
Lioness

DRUNK DRIVING

Over the limit. Under arrest.

COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Job Vacancy No. 10-006-1 Opening Date: January 6, 2010
Closing Date: July 16, 2010

DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (DED)
NOTE: This is a revised announcement. Position Description may be subject to modification upon hire.

Duties: The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is a government utility providing power, water, and wastewater services in the Northern Mariana Islands, a U.S. commonwealth in the western Pacific. This position is also known as the Deputy Director for Water and Wastewater. The incumbent is under the direct supervision of the Executive Director (ED), the incumbent's duties and responsibilities are as follows. Works with and for the ED to create and execute plans to improve the management, the finances and the operations of the CUC. The DED is responsible for management of all aspects of the Corporation's water and wastewater systems' operations, maintenance, and engineering. The DED is primarily responsible for ensuring the Corporation's compliance with all laws and regulations applicable to its water and wastewater systems.

LOCATION: CUC, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, USA.
SALARY: \$100,000 to \$120,000 per year.
CONTRACT: TWO-YEAR
POSITION: One.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Master's degree in Public Works Administration, Management or in the alternative, a Bachelor's degree in Engineering and registration as a Professional Engineer pursuant to the National Council of Engineering Examiners standard in either the Civil, Mechanical or Chemical branch; and senior management experience of at least ten years in similar wastewater and drinking water utility (preferably combined utility), with similar capital and operating budgets, capital improvement projects, human resource needs, utility financing issues, operation and maintenance training, and implementation needs. Must demonstrate: Proven management and communication skills; Demonstrated ability to lead, motivate, and develop staff; Experience with managing major water and wastewater systems during periods of planning, design, and construction; and Experience with water and wastewater systems, user fee system development, bond funding, staff training and development, and federal drinking water and wastewater requirements.

For a more detailed job vacancy announcement or for the position description or for an application, please contact the Human Resource Office either by calling 670-235-7025 through 7032 or by email at employment@cucgov.net.

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Find today's solution in this section

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Stricker holds on to win 2nd straight John Deere



SILVIS, Ill. (AP)—Even with a big lead, Steve Stricker knew he could be in for a rough final

round at the John Deere Classic.

And that's exactly what he got.

Stricker led by seven strokes with 17 holes to play. With five holes to go, the lead was down to just two. But he maintained that margin the rest of the way Sunday and won the tournament for the second straight year, closing with a 1-under par 70 that was just enough to beat Paul Goydos.

"It's a position you want to be in, with a big lead, but you know you have everything to lose," Stricker said. "This is the exactly the same way I felt at Northern Trust. It was difficult. It's a hard round to play."

Stricker had a six-shot lead in the Northern Trust Open at Riviera in February and had to scramble to win by two. On Sunday, he found himself doing the same thing.

He played it safe and his putting wasn't sharp. The shot-making that had allowed him to record the lowest 54-hole total in PGA Tour history wasn't there. But he came through with a critical birdie after driving into the trees on No. 17 and finished with a 258—26 under and a record for the tournament.

"You don't want to give shots away and then you end up playing a little safer than you normally do and it leads to tougher birdie putts," Stricker said. "Then they creep in closer because they were playing some good golf."

Goydos, who dazzled the golf world with his 59 in the opening round, shot a solid 66 but still fell short of dethroning



Steve Stricker holds the trophy after winning the John Deere Classic golf tournament at TPC Deere Run Sunday, July 11, 2010, in Silvis, Ill.

AP

Stricker, who won for the ninth time in his career.

Jeff Maggert shot a 70 to finish six strokes back.

Stricker started this final day with a six-shot lead and quickly bumped it to seven with a 7-foot birdie putt on the first hole. But he had to battle through the rest of the round before essentially sealing his victory at 17.

After driving into the trees right of the fairway for the second straight day, Stricker punched out to 91 yards, right in front of the green, then knocked a sand wedge to six feet. Measuring the putt carefully, Stricker tapped the ball

and as fans yelled "Get in the hole," it dropped.

"I told myself you can make this and you need to make this," he said. "I look back at some of the big putts that I've made and there's nothing to be scared of and I rolled it in. So that was a big putt. To go into the last hole with two shots instead of one was huge."

Goydos also birdied 17 to stay two behind, but his last hope ended when he hit into the water on 18. Stricker bogeyed the hole after laying up and hitting into the left rough, but it didn't matter—he was a champion again.

"Strick was hard to catch," Goydos

said. "I tried and kept pushing and chipping and grinding and biting at him and doing what I could. But in the end, the putt he made on 17 was a world-class putt. That's what top five players do, that's what Ryder Cup players do."

With the championship sown up, Stricker hit a safe shot to the green on 18 and happily took his bogey. The world's fourth-ranked golfer doffed his cap and hugged his caddie and Goydos after tapping in his final shot.

Goydos, who had been trying for his first win since 2007, qualified for the British Open with his second-place finish. Deere officials arranged for two

charter jets to fly the players direct to Scotland on Sunday night.

"I competed reasonably well today," Goydos said. "There are dozens of things I'm excited about and the perk is I get to go over and play at St. Andrews."

The final groups started three hours early because rain was forecast and they played in threesomes instead of pairs. And it was just in time—it began sprinkling as Stricker, Goydos and Maggert played the 18th.

Maggert drew within four strokes of Stricker on the back nine, but fell back when he bogeyed 13.

Stricker also birdied the second hole on Sunday to match those by Goydos and Maggert. But things got tougher when he missed the green at No. 4 and took a bogey after leaving his 8-foot putt for par 3 inches short.

That changed the whole atmosphere of the round, he said.

"I was aggressive, feeling good," Stricker said. "I hit a good drive at 4 and then just walk off with a bogey. And (Maggert) makes birdie and all of a sudden my lead is five."

After dominating the TPC Deere Run course for three rounds, Stricker had a shot at the PGA Tour scoring record of 254 and the record of 32 birdies for 72 holes. He fell four strokes and one birdie short of matching those numbers, but he got a victory and that will make the long flight to St. Andrews seem a whole lot shorter.

"This is why we're playing right here," Stricker said, pointing to the trophy on the table in front of him, "to win tournaments. I wouldn't trade anything for this."

Armstrong's Tour hopes 'finished' after 8th stage

MORZINE, France (AP)—Close the book on the Lance Armstrong era at the Tour de France. He has.

The record seven-time champion wrote off his chances of victory in his 13th and last Tour, signaling the beginning of the end of one of the most celebrated and controversial careers in cycling history.

The 38-year-old Texan's hopes for yet another title were dashed Sunday after he got caught in three crashes—one of which brought him down—and struggled to keep up during two tough climbs in Stage 8, the race's first foray into the Alps. He and his team said his hip got banged up, keeping him from pedaling hard.

The stage was won by 25-year-old Andy Schleck of Luxembourg, and Armstrong finished nearly 12 minutes back, in 61st place.

World champion Cadel Evans of Australia took the yellow jersey by finishing 10 seconds behind Schleck, but well ahead of overnight leader Sylvain Chavanel of France.

"My Tour is finished," said Armstrong, who fell to 39th overall.

"When it rains it pours I guess," he said in a Twitter message. "Today was not my day, needless to say. Quite banged but gonna hang in here and enjoy my last 2 weeks."

The race finishes July 25 in Paris.

The stage was a poignant, if agonizing, coda to Armstrong's unlikely bid for an eighth Tour victory in the second year of his comeback after a 3 1/2-year

hiatus. In his prime, he made his mark in the mountains, pulling away from his competitors there. Today, he panted and struggled on an Alpine climb, his rivals leaving him far behind.

"During his period of domination, in the first mountain stage in high altitudes, he'd hit hard," Tour director Christian Prudhomme said. "This is the first time it's not happened like that."

Those years of domination were also marked by years of suspicion about doping—which he's denied—including recent allegations by former teammate Floyd Landis.

Despite Armstrong's strong showing in races in Luxembourg and Switzerland this spring for his new RadioShack team, there were questions going into the Tour about his fitness after a crash and because his training was disrupted by a stomach bug.

"You can rationally say it's the end of an epoch, the third version, after the episode of his return from cancer, and his domination," Prudhomme said. "The third act has certainly taken a different turn."

Schleck, whose mountain-scaling skill is reminiscent of the Armstrong of old, reached out to his friend: "I'm a little bit sorry for him, because he really wanted to be really good in this Tour."

"So I think his morale is down."

Armstrong insisted it wasn't.

"No tears from me," he said. "I've had a lot of years here where it's been

very different, so I'm not going to dwell on today."

He also insisted he was in good condition.

"It's not the end of a myth today, it's the end of the Tour de France, of Lance's aspirations to win," RadioShack manager Johan Bruyneel said. "All that could go wrong, went wrong."

In his heyday, whether by luck or quicker reflexes, Armstrong almost never crashed. This Tour, he's already gone down twice—and been held up several other times by the falls of others.

"He took a big blow to his left hip and it was impossible to push all the way," said Bruyneel, Armstrong's coach during his seven victories. "He wasn't defeated physically today, but through bad luck."

His collapse Sunday was so complete that the only remaining question was whether he would finish. He could try to find a graceful way to slip home to be with his four, soon to be five, children.

Or, more in character, he might offer one more poke in the eye to his rivals—by trying to win at least a stage. For him to quietly ride the rest of the race, turning it into a two-week-long farewell would be out of character for someone who loves the limelight and has 2.5 million followers on Twitter.

Schleck showed he's one of the world's best climbers by surging to the head of the pack with less than a mile

to go and winning a two-man sprint ahead of Samuel Sanchez of Spain.

Schleck, the Saxo Bank team leader, clocked 4 hours, 54 minutes, 11 seconds, for the 117.4-mile run from Station des Rousses to the Morzine-Avoriaz ski resort that featured two very difficult climbs.

Alberto Contador, the defending Tour champion once billed as a successor to Armstrong, was fifth, 10 seconds back—along with Evans. Armstrong trailed 11:45 behind.

Overall, Evans leads Schleck by 20 seconds and Contador by 61 seconds. The Australian is a two-time Tour runner-up, and Schleck was runner-up last year. Armstrong is 13:26 back, having begun the day in 14th place behind Chavanel, who finished shortly before him.

Armstrong's deficit is all but impossible to make up given the many strong climbers ahead of him in the standings, and four punishing days in the Pyrenees looming in the third week.

Armstrong's day started badly and only got worse.

He has been known not to fare well riding in the heat, and Sunday's ride was hot—upward of 95 degrees—and muggy. But weather was the least of his worries compared to the crashes.

With breakaway riders setting a frenetic pace at the outset, Armstrong narrowly averted a spill among other riders at about four miles, having to veer onto the roadside grass to avoid a pileup. Evans got caught in the

spill but quickly recovered, with his shorts ripped and his knees and elbow scraped.

Then about two-thirds of the way through the stage, with the La Ramaz pass looming a few miles away, Armstrong fell as he rode through a roundabout in the fast-moving pack.

"I clipped the pedal and then my tire rolled off," he said. "Then, the next thing I know, I was rolling along the ground, at 60-65 (kilometers) an hour."

He got another bike and returned to the race with the back of his jersey and bib number torn. Armstrong and his teammates pedaled furiously to get him back to the peloton, but it required expending energy that he would need later on the climbs.

"It's hard to recover from something like that," Armstrong said.

He then struggled up the steepest portion of La Ramaz, getting dropped by the group that included Schleck, Contador and Evans. At the top, he was 1:10 behind them.

The coup de grace came with about 12 miles left, before the 8.5-mile ascent up to Morzine-Avoriaz, when Armstrong had to brake hard to avoid a rider who fell in front of him.

He didn't fall, but hopped off his bike as it fell to the ground. He slowly got back on, clearly exasperated by his third crash.

Still, he wasn't ruling out one last run at Tour glory.

"Obviously the Tour's finished for me, but I can try and win stages, try and help the team," Armstrong said, "really try and appreciate my time here, and the fact that I'm not coming back."

Successive homers lift Red Sox over Blue Jays



TORONTO
(AP)—Darnell McDonald and David Ortiz hit

back-to-back home runs to power the Boston Red Sox to a 3-2 win over the Toronto Blue Jays in the American League on Sunday.

Boston starter Daisuke Matsuzaka (6-3) won for the first time in more than a month, allowing two runs in six-plus innings, walking none and striking out five.

The Red Sox lost All-Star third baseman Adrian Beltre in the sixth with a strained left hamstring.

Aaron Hill connected for Blue Jays, who lead the major leagues with 136 homers.

Marco Scutaro ended Toronto starter Jesse Litsch's no-hit bid in the sixth with a two-out double. Litsch (0-4) then gave up homers to McDonald and Ortiz.

Twins 6, Tigers 3

In Detroit, Michael Cuddyer drove in a pair of runs to help Minnesota down Detroit and end a run of four defeats.

Twins starter Carl Pavano (10-6) pitched into the eighth inning, improving to 5-0 in his past seven starts. He allowed three runs, walked one and struck out six.

Tigers pitcher Andrew Oliver dropped to 0-3 in four career starts, after giving up four runs and four walks in 4 2-3 innings.

Yankees 8, Mariners 2

In Seattle, C.C. Sabathia allowed just one run in seven innings and joined Tampa Bay's David Price as the only 12-game winners in the AL, as New York roughed up Seattle.

Sabathia (12-3) won his eighth straight decision and made it look easy. After consecutive singles in the second inning, Sabathia set down the next 11 before a single leading off the sixth.

Meanwhile, the Yankees rocked Mariners starter Ryan Rowland-Smith for six runs in just four innings. Rowland-Smith (1-9) wasn't helped by two errors that allowed two unearned runs in the first inning.

Athletics 5, Angels 2

In Oakland, Jack Cust homered for the second time in three games as Oakland overcame Los Angeles.

Adam Rosales added a two-run single for the A's.

Trevor Cahill (9-3), Oakland's lone All-Star representative before closer Andrew Bailey was added to the AL roster Sunday, worked out of a bases-loaded, no-out jam in the sixth without allowing a run to earn the win.

Bobby Abreu homered for the second straight day for the Angels, who ended their dismal road trip 1-6.

L.A. starter Jared Weaver (8-5) lost for only the second time in his past six starts.



Toronto Blue Jays catcher John Buck, left hangs his head as Boston Red Sox's Darnell McDonald celebrates his two run home run during the sixth inning in a baseball game in Toronto on Sunday, July 11, 2010.

White Sox 15, Royals 5

In Chicago, Carlos Quentin hit a grand slam and a solo homer as Chicago surged into first place in the AL Central with a rout of Kansas City.

Andrew Jones hit his 400th career homer during a seven-run, four homer third inning for Chicago, which moved atop the division after trailing the Twins by 9 1/2 games on June 8.

Alex Rios and Dayan Viciedo also homered for the White Sox, who have won eight straight and 25 of 30. Chicago moved a half-game ahead of Detroit for first.

Royals starter Anthony Lerew (1-3), subbing for Zack Greinke (sore shoulder), got two outs in the third inning then was tagged for four home runs.

Chicago's Tony Pena (3-1) pitched three-hit ball for three innings to take the win.

Rays 6, Indians 5, 10 innings

In St. Petersburg, Jason Bartlett hit a game-ending single over a drawn-in outfield in the 10th inning, lifting Tampa Bay over Cleveland.

With one out in the 10th, Carl Crawford stole second. Kerry Wood (1-4) then intentionally walked Evan Longoria before Bartlett's winner.

Crawford homered for the Rays, while Andy Sonnanstine (2-0) pitched a perfect 10th for the win.

Orioles 4, Rangers 1

In Arlington, Corey Patterson had another homer against Texas as Baltimore completed a rare four-game road sweep of the Rangers.

The Orioles go into the All-Star break with the worst record in the majors and hadn't won any of their 14 road series this season before getting to Texas. But now they have their first four-game road sweep for 15 years.

Baltimore rookie Jake Arrieta (3-2) pitched into the seventh, limiting Texas to one run. Rangers starter C.J. Wilson (7-5) had won his previous four home starts, but threw only 60 of his 111 pitches for strikes during an inconsistent 4 2-3 innings. He walked five and threw three wild pitches.

Mets 3, Braves 0

In New York, Johan Santana went seven innings in another spotless start, playing the key role in the New York Mets' shutout of the Atlanta Braves.

Santana (7-5) was coming off a three-hit shutout of Cincinnati on Tuesday. He outpitched Braves starter Derek Lowe (9-8), who lasted only 5 1-3 innings.

New York rookie Ike Davis hit a long home run, while Alex Cora and pinch-hitter Josh Thole delivered RBI singles with two outs, and Angel Pagan had three of New York's 13 hits.

The Mets lead the majors in shutouts, with 13.

Padres 9, Rockies 7

In Denver, pitcher Matt Belisle's bases-loaded throwing error led to two unearned runs in the eighth inning, giving San Diego victory over Colorado.

Everth Cabrera hit his first homer of the season in the ninth for San Diego.

Scott Hairston matched a career high with four hits in helping the NL West-leading Padres gain a two-game cushion over second-place Colorado, which had won six straight.

Heath Bell got the five outs for his 24th save in 27 chances.

Belisle (4-4) ended up with the loss, while San Diego reliever Luke Gregerson (3-5) earned the win.

Phillies 1, Reds 0, 11 innings

In Philadelphia, Cole Hamels held Cincinnati scoreless into the eighth inning as Philadelphia completed a four-game sweep of the NL Central-leading Reds.

Hamels (7-7) didn't allow a run for the first time in 18 starts this season. J.C. Romero fanned the only batter he faced in the ninth, and Brad Lidge got the final two outs for his sixth save.

It's the first time Philadelphia has had consecutive 1-0 wins since 1913, according to the Elias Sports Bureau.

Jimmy Rollins got the sole RBI with an 11th inning single after Reds starter Travis Wood took a perfect game into the ninth.

Dodgers 7, Cubs 0

In Los Angeles, Vicente Padilla pitched eight scoreless innings to steer Los Angeles to a comfortable win over Chicago.

Padilla (4-2) struck out six and walked one in his longest outing of the season, improving to 3-0 with a 1.25 ERA in his past three starts.

James Loney hit a three-run homer off Carlos Silva before the Cubs pitcher was ejected in the second inning of baseball's last game before the All-Star break.

The Dodgers and are tied with Colorado for second in the NL West, two games behind surprising San Diego. The sluggish Cubs finished the first half 9-0 games off NL Central-leading Cincinnati.

Giants 6, Nationals 2

In Washington, Travis Ishikawa drove in three runs as San Francisco downed Washington.

Buster Posey had two RBIs for San Francisco, while Madison Bumgarner (2-2) allowed just one run in six-plus innings, walked none and struck out sixth.

Washington's Livan Hernandez (6-5) struggled through five innings, yielding five runs and five hits.

Cardinals 4, Astros 2

In Houston, Matt Holliday hit a three-run homer as St. Louis finally came to grips with Houston starter Wandy Rodriguez.

Colby Rasmus drove in a run with a pinch-hit single for the visitors' other score.

St. Louis' Blake Hawksworth (3-5) yielded two runs in 5 1-3 innings to get the win in his fifth major league start.

Rodriguez (6-11) retired the first 10 batters he faced before allowing three runs with six strikeouts. Rodriguez has won four straight.

Marlins 2, Diamondbacks 0

In Phoenix, Jorge Cantu doubled in a run for Florida, which beat Arizona and ended its 13-game road trip on a high.

Dan Uglia had an RBI single for the Marlins, who went 7-6 on the trip.

Burke Badenhop (1-5) threw just two pitches in relief of starter Alex Sanabia but got the victory.

The Diamondbacks outhit Florida 8-5 but were stung by three double plays, one with the bases loaded, and stranded six runners. Barry Enright (1-2) allowed both runs in five innings.

Pirates 6, Brewers 5

In Milwaukee, Corey Hart hit a two-run homer in the ninth inning to give the Brewers a three-game sweep and hand Pittsburgh its sixth straight loss.

The Brewers trailed 5-4 when Jim Edmonds led off the ninth with a ground-rule double. After a flyout, Hart sent an Octavio Dotel (2-2) pitch over the wall in left for his second game-ending home run of the season.

John Axford (5-1) allowed a run in the ninth but picked up the win.

NBA BRIEFS

Cuban: NBA should examine how Heat got Big 3

LAS VEGAS (AP)—Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban says the NBA should examine how free agents LeBron James, Chris Bosh and Dwyane Wade all ended up with the Miami Heat. Cuban tells a group of reporters at the NBA's summer league in Las Vegas that he intends to ask the league's Board of Governors to inquire about the situation. According to a story

posted on the Cleveland Plain Dealer's website Sunday, Cuban says the league needs to develop more definitive rules governing the issue of player tampering. NBA owners are scheduled to meet Monday in Las Vegas.

Ben Wallace set to sign 2-year deal with Pistons

DETROIT (AP)—Ben Wallace says he'll sign a two-year contract soon with the Detroit Pistons. Wallace told The

Associated Press on Sunday he heard from a lot of teams, but agreed to a two-year deal about a week ago because he wants to retire with the Pistons. He'll make \$1.9 million each season. Pistons president Joe Dumars said on the first day of free agency that the team's first order of business was to keep Wallace and restricted free agent Will Bynum. The 35-year-old Wallace was one of Detroit's best players last season when it missed the playoffs for the first time

since 2001. The center helped the Pistons win the 2004 title during his prime when he was the Defensive Player of the Year four times in five years.

Trail Blazers sign Matthews to offer sheet

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—The Portland Trail Blazers have signed restricted free-agent guard Wesley Matthews to an offer sheet. Matthews spent last season playing for the Utah Jazz as a

rookie. The Jazz have seven days to match the offer. Financial details of the contract offer, announced Saturday by the Trail Blazers, were not disclosed. Matthews averaged 9.4 points and 2.3 rebounds in 24.7 minutes per game for the Jazz. He appeared in all 82 games last season and started in 48. In the postseason, he averaged 13.2 points and 4.4 rebounds in 37.1 minutes per game. He started in all 10 of Utah's playoff games.

SPAIN

From Page 28

They beat the Netherlands on Sunday to go one better than the European title Espana won in 2008.

Spain won its last four games by a score of 1-0 - a tight margin that characterized the month-long tournament. The World Cup featured a record 31 one-goal decisions out of 64 matches - four more than the previous high set in 2002, according to STATS LLC.

This final was a physical test of attrition that sometimes turned dirty—a finals-record 14 yellow cards were handed out and the Dutch finished with 10 men. In the end, it was Iniesta breaking free in the penalty area, taking a pass from Cesc Fabregas and putting a right-footed shot from 8 yards just past the outstretched arms of goalkeeper Maarten Stekelenburg with about seven minutes left to play, including injury time.

“When I struck it, it just had to go in,” Iniesta said.

For the Dutch and their legions of orange-clad fans wearing everything from jerseys to jumpsuits to clown gear to pajamas, it was yet another disappointment.

Even with their first World Cup title tantalizingly within reach, they failed in the final for the third time. This one might have been the most bitter because, unlike 1974 and 1978, the Netherlands was unbeaten not only in this tournament, but in qualifying for the first World Cup staged in South Africa.

Soccer City was soaked in Oranje, from the seats painted in that hue throughout the stadium to pretty much everyone seated in them, including crown prince Willem-Alexander. It was different when they lost to hosts West Germany and Argentina in previous finals; this time, the Dutch were

something of a home team. And the visitors won.

Spain had pockets of supporters, too, with fans dressed in red and scattered throughout the stadium. Among those cheering were Queen Sofia, Rafael Nadal and Pau Gasol.

Spain’s fans might have been in the minority, but when the final whistle blew, they were tooting their vuvuzelas with a vengeance in tribute to their champions.

A second straight World Cup final headed into extra time, with the goalkeepers unbeatable. Stekelenburg, relatively inexperienced on the international level, made a spectacular left leg save when Fabregas broke free early in overtime.

The goal in the 116th minute came off a turnover by the Dutch defense that Fabregas controlled just outside the penalty area. Iniesta stayed on the right and sneaked in to grab the pass and put his shot to the far post. Stekelenburg barely brushed it with his fingertips as it soared into the net.

And with that, Iniesta tore off his jersey and raced to the corner where he was mobbed by his teammates.

Several Dutch players wiped away tears as they received their runners-up medals—yet again. They had won every qualifying match and all six previous games in South Africa before the bitter ending.

The Netherlands now has more victories in World Cup games without a title than any nation: 19. Spain held that dubious record with 24.

Netherlands coach Bert van Marwijk took off his silver medal as soon as he left the podium, a look of disgust on his face.

The winners struggled but managed to lift their coach, Vicente del Bosque, in the air in celebration.

“This is immeasurable for Spain,” he said.

INIESTA

From Page 28

tour of Italy last year, one month after being named captain of Espanyol.

Iniesta and Jarque were teammates on Spain’s under-17, under-19, under-20 and under-21 teams.

“I wanted to carry Dani with me,” Iniesta said after picking up his man of the match award. “We wanted to pay tribute to him and we thought it was the best opportunity to do so.” Iniesta was given a yellow card

for the gesture—the rule when players remove their jerseys—but that was a small price to pay after he blasted a shot across Netherlands goalkeeper Maarten Stekelenburg and in at the far post.

“I can’t quite believe it yet,” the 26-year-old Barcelona midfielder said. “I had the opportunity to score that goal which was so important to my team. It’s something absolutely incredible. I simply made a small contribution to my team.”

Moments after explaining his tribute to Jarque, teammates Cesc

DUTCH

From Page 28

ugly part.

Eight Oranje players were shown yellow cards and John Heitinga got ejected when he picked up his second yellow in extra time. Even after the final whistle in their 1-0 loss to Spain, players from the Netherlands were yelling at the officials.

“Our fouls may be a sad thing for a final, but it is not our style,” said Van Marwijk, who took his silver medal off as soon as he left the podium at the post-game news conference.

■■■
JOHANNESBURG (AP)—Uruguay striker Diego Forlan has been awarded the Golden Ball as the World Cup’s best player, and Germany forward Thomas Mueller won the Golden Boot as the tourna-

ment’s top scorer with five goals. Forlan was voted the most outstanding player of the tournament by accredited media after leading his team to the semifinals.

The 20-year-old Mueller helped Germany take third place with his five goals and three assists, and also won the Best Young Player award. Forlan, Spain striker David Villa and Netherlands playmaker Wesley Sneijder also scored five times but each had only one assist. Villa and Sneijder both failed to score in Sunday’s final, won 1-0 by Spain.

Spain’s Iker Casillas won the Golden Glove as the top goalkeeper.

■■■

Four years after France’s Zinedine Zidane was ejected in the final and the French lost to Italy on penalty kicks, the Dutch were a 10-man

Then they made a quick costume change from their sweat-soaked blue jerseys into their traditional red ones.

Iker Casillas, the captain, accepted the trophy from FIFA president Sepp Blatter, who was bundled in a scarf since temperatures dipped into the 40s on this chilly winter’s night in the Southern Hemisphere.

Casillas, voted the World Cup’s top goalkeeper, kissed the distinctive gold award and raised it for all to see while cameras flashed and confetti flew throughout the still-full stadium.

“This really is quite a cup,” Casillas said. “The European Championship was the most important moment of our lives, but today is much bigger than anything else.”

Soon, the entire team and staff gathered at midfield for a group photo. The players bounced up and down to the World Cup theme song, then took a victory lap as the trophy was passed to each member of the squad.

“It’s the most beautiful that there is. It’s spectacular,” Iniesta said.

Aside from a European title in 1988, the Dutch have been classic underachievers on the pitch.

Yet the Spaniards haven’t been much better. Other than Euro championships in 1964 and 2008, they rarely have contended in major tournaments. At least the Netherlands made those two World Cup finals and advanced to the semifinals in 1998.

Spain joined West Germany and France as the only nations to simultaneously hold the world and European titles. West Germany followed the European title with the 1974 World Cup and France won the 1998 Cup before winning the Euros two years later.

The Spaniards also won the championship with the fewest goals, eight.

Second-ranked Spain started this World Cup in the worst way, losing to Switzerland. But Spain won every

Fabregas, Gerard Pique and Carles Puyol burst into the news conference room with beers in hand and started chanting, “You’re the best, you’re the best” at Iniesta, who broke into a wide smile.

“It was a difficult game, the Netherlands closed down a lot at the back and didn’t let us get through. We had some chances that we didn’t put away, they had some chances too,” said Spain striker David Villa. “In the end the goal by our kid ‘San Andres’ means that we’re world champions.”

side when Andres Iniesta scored the game’s only goal.

“I would have loved to win it with football that is not so beautiful,” Van Marwijk said.

On a team flush with talent, only Arjen Robben stood out on Sunday and almost gave the Dutch a breakthrough goal twice on darting runs through the center. Each time, Spain goalkeeper Iker Casillas was perfect in blocking his attempts.

“You felt that the team that would score first would win,” Van Marwijk said. “We had two great chances through Arjen.”

The Dutch twice went to the finals in the 1970s but lost both times—to West Germany and then Argentina—playing with flair in a style called “total football.”

Two years ago, the coach moved the team toward a more efficient, less flashy style. Before Sunday, it

game after that, including a 1-0 victory over powerful Germany that was far more one-sided than the score indicated. No other nation has won the World Cup after losing its opener.

“They made it very difficult for us to play comfortably,” Del Bosque said. “It was a very intense match.”

Yet the most dangerous player Sunday was Netherlands forward Arjen Robben. He had a rare breakaway in the 62nd minute after a brilliant through pass from Wesley Sneijder. He had the ball on his preferred left foot, but a charging Casillas barely got his right leg on the shot to deflect it wide of the gaping net.

Then it was Stekelenburg’s turn, holding his ground after a misplay in front of the net gave the ever-potent Villa an open shot.

As play opened up, the crowd of 84,490 got quieter in nervous anticipation of the goal that would win the World Cup.

Robben again looked as though he might get it with a burst of speed past the defense, but Casillas sprinted from his net and smothered the ball before Robben could take a shot.

“You felt that the team that would score first would win,” Van Marwijk said. “We had two great chances through Arjen. We made a real game out of it.”

Before the game, former South African president Nelson Mandela received a huge ovation when he was driven onto the field on a golf cart. A smiling Mandela waved to the fans as the vuvuzelas buzzed throughout Soccer City.

And after the game, Iniesta took time to salute Paul the Octopus, who correctly picked the winner of eight matches.

“As for the octopus, what can I say?” Iniesta said, smiling. “We won and I’m sure the octopus will be more popular in Spain.”

One of the creative midfielders who inspires Spain’s attack, Iniesta arrived in South Africa struggling after an injury-plagued season. A thigh muscle injury in his right leg has nagged him since he helped Barcelona win the Champions League in May 2009.

But he saved Spain in a tight, tense game.

“When the game finished a lot of the difficult moments flashed in front of me,” Iniesta said. “But, in the end, football sometimes gives back. Every situation has its moment and with this one I felt enormous happiness.”

was hard to argue with the results—the Netherlands came in riding a 10-game winning streak and a 25-match unbeaten streak.

But when it counted, the Netherlands didn’t have enough creativity to counter Spain’s offensive attack.

And after a foul-filled game, midfielder Mark van Bommel went straight over to referee Howard Webb to have his say. He was soon joined by Wesley Sneijder, Robben and a gesticulating Joris Mathijsen.

“We are angry that we lost because we came so close,” Netherlands forward Dirk Kuyt said. “I know you cannot blame others, but the ref was more favorable to Spain.”

“We had much more yellow cards than we deserved.”

Netherlands forward Eljero Elia agreed. “If the referee made good decisions, then its a different game,” he said.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	56	32	.636	—
Tampa Bay	54	34	.614	2
Boston	51	37	.580	5
Toronto	44	45	.494	12 1/2
Baltimore	29	59	.330	27

Central Division

Chicago	49	38	.563	—
Detroit	48	38	.558	1/2
Minnesota	46	42	.523	3 1/2
Kansas City	39	49	.443	10 1/2
Cleveland	34	54	.386	15 1/2

West Division

Texas	50	38	.568	—
Los Angeles	47	44	.516	4 1/2
Oakland	43	46	.483	7 1/2
Seattle	35	53	.398	15

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Atlanta	52	36	.591	—
New York	48	40	.545	4
Philadelphia	47	40	.540	4 1/2
Florida	42	46	.477	10
Washington	39	50	.438	13 1/2

Central Division

Cincinnati	49	41	.544	—
St. Louis	47	41	.534	1
Milwaukee	40	49	.449	8 1/2
Chicago	39	50	.438	9 1/2
Houston	36	53	.404	12 1/2
Pittsburgh	30	58	.341	18

West Division

San Diego	51	37	.580	—
Colorado	49	39	.557	2
Los Angeles	49	39	.557	2
San Francisco	47	41	.534	4
Arizona	34	55	.382	17 1/2

Yesterday's Games

N.Y. Mets 3, Atlanta 0
Philadelphia 1, Cincinnati 0
San Francisco 6, Washington 2
St. Louis 4, Houston 2
Milwaukee 6, Pittsburgh 5
San Diego 9, Colorado 7
Florida 2, Arizona 0
L.A. Dodgers 7, Chicago Cubs 0
Minnesota 6, Detroit 3
Boston 3, Toronto 2
Tampa Bay 6, Cleveland 5, 10 innings
Chicago White Sox 15, Kansas City 5
Baltimore 4, Texas 1
Oakland 5, L.A. Angels 2
N.Y. Yankees 8, Seattle 2

JOHN DEERE CLASSIC SCORES

SILVIS, Illinois (AP)—Scores Sunday from the \$4.4 million John Deere Classic at the 7,268-yard, par 71 course at TPC Deere Run:

FINAL ROUND

Steve Stricker (500), \$792,000	60-66-62-70—258
Paul Goydos (300), \$475,200	59-68-67-66—260
Jeff Maggert (190), \$299,200	66-65-63-70—264
Shaun Micheel (135), \$211,200	69-66-63-67—265
Matt Jones (110), \$176,000	64-67-66-70—267
Vaughn Taylor (100), \$158,400	71-66-64-67—268
Charley Hoffman (85), \$137,133	65-69-70-65—269
Tim Clark (85), \$137,133	71-66-66-66—269
Brendon de Jonge (85), \$137,133	67-65-68-69—269
Brett Quigley (73), \$114,400	68-67-68-67—270
Troy Matteson (73), \$114,400	69-66-67-68—270
Greg Chalmers (61), \$92,400	68-70-67-66—271
Tom Pernice, Jr. (61), \$92,400	71-67-65-68—271
John Senden (61), \$92,400	70-66-65-70—271
Rod Pampling (54), \$68,200	67-67-69-69—272
Jason Day (54), \$68,200	66-71-66-69—272
Kenny Perry (54), \$68,200	68-70-65-69—272
Rocco Mediate (54), \$68,200	67-71-64-70—272
Garrett Willis (54), \$68,200	67-70-65-70—272
Charlie Wi (54), \$68,200	66-69-66-71—272
Jason Bohn (44), \$36,418	69-67-69-68—273
Zach Johnson (44), \$36,418	67-69-69-68—273
Jonathan Byrd (44), \$36,418	66-69-71-67—273
Boo Weekley (44), \$36,418	70-63-71-69—273
Todd Hamilton (44), \$36,418	68-70-67-68—273
Michael Bradley (44), \$36,418	68-70-69-66—273
Joe Ogilvie (44), \$36,418	67-69-68-69—273
Webb Simpson (44), \$36,418	67-66-70-70—273
Josh Teater (44), \$36,418	67-69-68-69—273
Andres Romero (44), \$36,418	68-70-70-65—273
Gary Woodland (44), \$36,418	66-72-65-70—273
Chad Collins (44), \$36,418	67-68-67-71—273
James Nitties (44), \$36,418	64-69-69-71—273
Chad Campbell (35), \$22,704	71-67-68-68—274
Spencer Levin (35), \$22,704	71-67-69-67—274
Kevin Sutherland (35), \$22,704	68-67-68-71—274
Scott Piercy (35), \$22,704	69-69-70-66—274
Kevin Stadler (35), \$22,704	67-70-71-66—274
Chris Couch (28), \$15,858	68-66-71-70—275
Henrik Bjornstad (28), \$15,858	68-68-68-70—275
John Merrick (28), \$15,858	68-69-69-69—275
Aaron Baddeley (28), \$15,858	64-68-74-69—275
Chris DiMarco (28), \$15,858	70-66-68-71—275
Steve Elkington (28), \$15,858	67-70-70-68—275
Michael Letzig (28), \$15,858	64-70-69-72—275
Pat Perez (28), \$15,858	68-69-71-67—275
Charles Howell III (28), \$15,858	68-68-72-67—275
Mark Wilson (28), \$15,858	68-69-74-64—275
Steve Lowery (19), \$10,661	68-67-70-71—276
Paul Stankowski (19), \$10,661	69-68-68-71—276
Roger Tambellini (19), \$10,661	69-69-67-71—276
Michael Connell (19), \$10,661	70-67-70-69—276
Matt Bettencourt (19), \$10,661	69-67-68-72—276
Jay Williamson (19), \$10,661	65-69-73-69—276
George McNeill (19), \$10,661	66-65-76-69—276
James Driscoll (13), \$9,812	70-68-68-71—277
Woody Austin (13), \$9,812	68-67-71-71—277
Matt Weibring (13), \$9,812	69-67-71-70—277
Jeff Quinney (13), \$9,812	69-68-73-67—277
Marco Dawson (13), \$9,812	67-69-66-75—277
Matt Every (13), \$9,812	70-68-74-65—277
Brian Davis (8), \$9,416	68-69-69-72—278
J.J. Henry (8), \$9,416	72-65-71-70—278
John Mallinger (8), \$9,416	69-68-71-70—278
Mark Hensby (5), \$9,152	70-64-73-72—279
Davis Love III (5), \$9,152	70-67-72-70—279
Robert Garrigus (5), \$9,152	69-67-72-69—279
Lee Janzen (3), \$8,932	71-67-73-70—281
Michael Allen (3), \$8,932	70-68-74-69—281
Daniel Chopra (1), \$8,800	65-71-72-74—281
Brad Faxon (1), \$8,712	70-68-73-72—283
Cliff Kresge (1), \$8,580	67-71-73-74—285
Richard S. Johnson (1), \$8,580	69-68-74-74—285
Skip Kendall (1), \$8,448	70-68-74-75—287

FedEx Cup points in parentheses

MDX-Chow Queen stuns Nationals

Sixers win, Sparks win via forfeit

By **WALTER SUTHERLAND**
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Sixers fought off the Rollers B squad, 76-62, in UBA Youth League Monday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Roxanne Duenas and Joe Ada were the Sixers' high scorers in the first half with seven and six points, respectively. The duo received mixed support from various others as a whole.

John Norita led the way for the Rollers with 10 points in the first half and received six points in support from teammate John Cenir.

At halftime the Sixers led, 27-24, but it was still anybody's game.

The Rollers leaned heavily on Norita in the second half. The big man delivered 26 points in the final period along, but the rest of his team were unable to get involved on the offensive end.

Meanwhile, the Sixers were almost toying with



the Roller B-Squad. After taking a short break to begin the last half, Joe Ada cranked it in gear when he came back out on his way to a 20-point performance in the final period.

His teammate Pedro Castro and Ian Benavente added a respective 10 and eight points in support.

The Sixers ran away with it in the second half and ended up winning by 14 points.

The second game on schedule between the Celtics and the Sparks resulted in a forfeit for the latter as the Celtics, who have been struggling to find enough players to legitimately compete, were unable to suit up a minimum five-player roster required to play.

Tomorrow night starting at 6pm, undefeated Kagman 1-2-3 will face off against Hi-5 in UBA's in the first game followed by a pairing between the Sonics and Sparks at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Sixers 76 — Ada 26, Castro 12, R. Duenas 11, Benavente 9, Palacios 8, C. Duenas 4, Fleming 4, J. Duenas 2.

Rollers B 62 —Norita 35, Billy 6, Cenir 6, Laniyo 6, Palacios 4, Yap 2.

Scoring halves: 27-24, 76-62.

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER



MDX-Chow Queen started their title defense bid in the 2010 United Filipino Organization Inter-Organizational Reinforced Basketball League with a bang, beating the CNMI Nationals, 76-70, last Sunday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

It was the Nationals' first loss since joining several local leagues to prepare for the 7th Micronesian Games.

MDX, which swept Samahang Ilokano at Pangasinense-Marianas Wireless in the best-of-three title series in the open division last year, stole the league's opening game from the Nationals behind Kae Bernardo's seven fourth quarter points.

The Nationals were ahead by a hair, 58-57, at the start of the fourth quarter, but could not hang on to the lead, as they failed to neutralize Bernardo in the homestretch. Bernardo was held to a free throw at the beginning of the fourth period, but scored six of MDX's last nine points to lift the defending champion to the six-point win. His three straight underneath baskets foiled the Nationals' bid to regain the lead, while Bon

Tamayo's two-pointer and Dave Sablan's split free throw sealed the deal for MDX.

Bernardo finished with 20 points, while Tamayo chipped in 10. Four other MDX players tallied at least eight markers apiece to help the team's cause.

Jack Lizama, Robert Naraja, and Dan Barcinas top-scored for the Nationals with 12 apiece, but only Naraja made it to the scoreboard in the fourth canto, knocking three triples, while the rest of his teammates struggled.

MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt 76, Bayani-Soul Jaz 67

In the second game, MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt survived Bayani-Soul Jaz's late rally to pull off a 76-67 win.

MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt led by as much as 22 points, 58-36, but was complacent in the fourth quarter, allowing Bayani to come back in the last five minutes of the game.

A triple from Lerio Pagarao moved Bayani within five, 67-72. However, less than 30 seconds were left in the match and MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt still had possession.

After Pagarao's triple, he gave up a quick foul on Elmer Esdrelon, who then trooped to the stripe and canned two crucial free throws, upping MA-



MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt's Edsel Mendoza, left, plays tough defense against Bayani-Soul Jaz during their game in the opening day of the UFO caging last Sunday at the Garapan Basketball Court.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

FEA-Ali'i Konflikt's lead to seven, 74-67, with less than 20 seconds left on the clock.

Bayani faltered on its next offensive set, while Esdrelon made an uncontested jumper in the ensuing play to peg the final score.

Esdrelon led MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt with 21 points, while Badong Camacho and Bernard Aqu-

no also finished in double figures with 12 and 11, respectively.

Pagarao paced Bayani with 16 markers.

Meanwhile, competition in the masters division of the UFO caging will start today with Vis-Minda taking on MAFEA in the first game at 6:30am. The open division match between

Seniors bow to HK, Big Leaguers lose to Guam

By **WALTER SUTHERLAND**
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REPORTER



The CNMI Junior All-Stars lost their second consecutive game in the 2010 Asia-Pacific Little League Regional Tournament Sunday after bowing to Hong Kong, 4-2, at the Gelora Bung Karno baseball field in Jakarta, Indonesia.

The loss follows 3-4 defeat in the hands of archrival Guam in the opening day of the competition Saturday.

Yesterday, the Junior Leaguers played the Philippines at 7:30am, Jakarta time. Scores and updates are still pending.

The team challenges Taiwan tomorrow in a must-win 7:30am matchup. With two losses and zero wins thus far, the defending champion Junior Leaguers' chances at advancing to the finals are slim.

CNMI Big League All-Stars also lost their game on Sunday, 10-8, against Guam after failing to hold on to an 8-7 lead in the late innings. The Big Leaguers will face Indonesia tomorrow at 11:15am.

So far, the CNMI Senior All-Stars is the only team to come out with a victory in Jakarta after it beat Guam, 4-3, in its first game Saturday.

The Senior Leaguers faced home team Indonesia at 2:30pm Jakarta time yesterday. Again, scores and updates are still pending. The team will have a day's rest today and then face the Philippines Wednesday morning at 8am.

The Junior All-Stars are made up of Alan Q. Aguon, Jeremy C. Atalig, Jonathon P. Cabrera, Keene H. Deleon Guerrero,

Shane D. Deleon Guerrero, Khobby Kaipat, Jeffery C. Lizama, Jeremy D. Lizama, Jose C. Lizama Jr., Steven G. Cabrera, Jerome Q. Reyes Jr., Frankie K. Norita, and Jared P. Sablan

The Senior Division team, meanwhile, includes Zachary Aldan, Carl C. Camacho, Diego Camacho, Richard A. Dela Cruz, Ricardo Dela Cruz, McGarette Duenas, Nathan M. Guerrero, Gregorio Iskawa, Jeremy Lizama, Harry T. Nakamura, Marvin Ngeskebei, Joseph B. Palacios Jr., Leonard T. Sablan, Jake P. Santos, Kevin Y. Villagomez,

and Jesse Yamagishi.

The Big League team consists of Tom C. Agulto, Chad Atalig, Jimmy K. Brel, Wally Sn. Emul, Elijah B. Aughenbaugh, Thomas C. Camacho, Jonathon Celis, Davenalt P. Jones, Juan T. Iguel, Nicolas Cruz Jr., Joshua Jones, Ryan Lisua, Juan U. Maratita II, Ioanis P. Rasa, Antonio Rogolifoi, and John Paul B. Lizama.

The CNMI Major All-Stars returned to Saipan early yesterday morning after failing to secure a connecting flight to Surabaya, Indonesia where the Major Regionals is being held.

PTC, Trinity rout foes; Mythical Five, Archers win

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

Pacific Trading, Co. and Trinity Estate had a walk in the park Friday night after whipping separate foes in the 2010 Miller Lite Invitational Basketball Tournament at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

PTC clobbered Managaha-Tasi Tours, 88-68, after drawing 28 and 20 points, from Alex Lauron and Bon Tamayo, respectively.

After a close first half, which ended with PTC on top by only a point, 36-35, Lauron, Tamayo, and Aba Tagle combined for 17 points in the third period to lift the host team to a 61-47 lead, entering the final canto. PTC never looked back from thereon.

Trinity Estate 82, Triple J 66

In the second game, Trinity Es-

tate held Triple J to nine first-quarter points to cruise to an 82-66 win.

Trinity only had four players making it to the scoreboard, but all of them logged double figures. Epi Cabrera had a team-high 28 points, Michael Palacios chipped in 21, and Rommel Manuel and Eric Dulfo added 17 and 15, respectively.

After firing only nine points in the first period, Triple J picked up the scoring in the second canto, tallying 14 markers. However, Trinity still outscored them, 16-14, for a 32-23 half-time lead. Trinity went on to pad the lead to double digits in the second half.

Mythical Five 73, DL Cooking Gas 62

In the first game last Saturday,

Jun Tabora drilled 24 points to power Mythical Five to a 73-62 triumph against DL Cooking Gas.

Mythical Five outgunned DL Cooking Gas in three of the fourth quarters of the game with Tabora scoring on layups and short jumpers.

Gilbert Miranda also finished in double figures for Mythical Five, adding 11.

Archers 73, Fixers 67

In the second game, the Archers slipped past the Fixers, 73-67.

After trailing most of the way in the first half, the Archers behind the trio of Noel David, Rommel Usi, and Jay Danipog recovered in the second half to pull off a six-point win.

Rommel Usi nailed 14 of his 18 markers in the second

half, while David and Danipog chipped in nine apiece in the last 20 minutes of the game. Mico Usi had only eight points, but made two crucial free throws in the homestretch.

FRIDAY First Game

PTC 88 — Lauron 28, Tamayo 20, Garon 9, Tagle 9, Achas 7, Lansang 5, Trajano 4, Barbo 1.

Managaha 68 — Sharry 16, Remilloza 14, Yabut 11, Banzagale 10, Miguel 6, Surima 4, Dela Rama 2.

Scoring by quarters: 18-15, 36-35, 61-47, 88-68.

Second Game

Trinity 81 — Cabrera 28, Palacios 21, Manuel 17, Dulfo 15.

Triple J — 66 Bugay 32, Favor 12, Salvador 8, Pinili 5, Jarabe 4, Soquina 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-9, 32-23, 54-44, 82-66.

SATURDAY First Game

Mythical Five 73 — Tabora 24, Miranda 11, Rebuyon 8, Buenabajo 6, Acosta 5, Echavez 2, Tobias 2, Morales 2, Alvarez 2.

DL Cooking Gas 62 — Abedes 15, Illahi 13, Tenorio 9, Marchadesh 9, Ebuen 8, Dayrit 6.

Scoring by quarters: 18-12, 39-27, 53-47, 73-62.

Second Game

Archers 73 — R. Usi 18, David 12, Danipog 12, Mendoza 9, M. Usi 8, Quintip 6.

Fixers 67 — Barrios 26, Martin 17, Valencia 5, Llagas 5, Artates 4, Camacho 4, Vergara 2, Mateo 2.

Scoring by quarters: 8-16, 26-30, 51-45, 73-67.



Stricker holds on
to win 2nd straight
John Deere

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Successive homers
lift Red Sox over
Blue Jays

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Spain beats Netherlands 1-0 for World Cup

By BARRY WILNER
AP SPORTS WRITER

JOHANNESBURG (AP)—Exhaustion etched on their faces, fatigued bodies ready to betray them, the players knew just one goal would be enough to win the elusive World Cup for their nation.



As the clock ticked toward penalty kicks, the shivering crowd at Soccer City Stadium grew anxious.

Spain or the Netherlands would win its first championship if only someone could find the net.

Andres Iniesta did, and Spain rules the soccer world at long, long last.

"We have all done an incredible job," he said Sunday night, shortly after the 1-0 extra-time victory. "I don't think we even realize what we have done."

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Spain goalkeeper Iker Casillas holds up the World Cup trophy following the World Cup final soccer match between the Netherlands and Spain at Soccer City in Johannesburg, South Africa, Sunday, July 11, 2010. Spain won 1-0.

AP



AP

Spain's Andres Iniesta, left, scores a goal past Netherlands' Rafael van der Vaart, during the World Cup final soccer match between the Netherlands and Spain at Soccer City in Johannesburg, South Africa, Sunday, July 11, 2010.

Iniesta dedicates goal to fallen teammate

By ANDREW DAMPF
AP SPORTS WRITER

JOHANNESBURG (AP)—Andres Iniesta will always be remembered for the goal that gave Spain its first World Cup title. And when he scored, Iniesta remembered former teammate Daniel Jarque.

Moments after his extra-

time goal gave Spain a 1-0 victory over the Netherlands in Sunday's final, Iniesta took off his blue Spain jersey to reveal a white T-shirt bearing the words, "Dani Jarque: siempre con nosotros" - "Dani Jarque: always with us."

Jarque collapsed and died at the age of 26 on a preseason

See INIESTA on Page 26



Dutch play ugly in title loss to Spain

By RAF CASERT
AP SPORTS WRITER

JOHANNESBURG (AP)—Going into the World Cup, Netherlands coach Bert van Marwijk said he didn't mind winning ugly.

In Sunday's final, the Dutch only managed the

See DUTCH on Page 26

Netherlands' Wesley Sneijder lies on the pitch following the World Cup final soccer match between the Netherlands and Spain at Soccer City in Johannesburg, South Africa, Sunday, July 11, 2010.

AP